

All Around Pennsauken



Pennsauken Township's
SUMMER PROGRAMS
for Youths & Adults
see page 6
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VOL. 24, NO. 5

A Publication for the Community of Pennsauken

May 2019

Residents Save On Electric Bills Through Energy Aggregation Program

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

In 2016, residents of Pennsauken enjoyed electric rates lower than that of Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G), thanks to a cost-saving energy aggregation program put in place by the Township. When that program ended in 2017, the Township continued to look for an opportunity to restart the popular initiative. With the help of Concord Energy Services of Voorhees, N.J., the Pennsauken Township Energy Aggregation Program will start up again beginning in July.

"We're thrilled to be able to offer these energy savings to our town," says Pennsauken Mayor Jack Killion. "These reduced rates solely benefit our residents that are eligible for the program. Our municipal government is not receiving any type of financial consideration for participating."

The new rate of \$0.11999 per kilowatt-hour is 6 percent lower than that of PSE&G. On average, residents will save about \$63 during the program's 16-month contract period.

More than 11,600 households are eligible for the cost-reducing program, part of a state-supported process called government energy aggregation (GEA). Under GEA, state-licensed energy suppliers bid



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Festive Music, Food Trucks, And Fireworks Return With Summer Kickoff Bash

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Great music, good food, and the return of fireworks will be the hallmarks of Pennsauken's 2019 Summer Kickoff Bash. Held from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 18 at the Pennsauken Community Recreation Complex, located at the corner of Westfield and Bethel avenues, the entire community is invited to take part in this special celebration.

"Our Summer Kickoff Bash has all the elements for a great party: good food, music that will get you up on your feet, and an impressive fireworks display," says Pennsauken Mayor Jack Killion. "Even with inclement weather last year, we had a

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Fireworks will cap off Pennsauken's second annual Summer Kickoff Bash on Saturday, May 18.

Pennsauken's Municipal Tax Portion Remains Flat For Seven Years In A Row

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Each year, property taxes – based on the assessed value of a resident's home – are used in a variety of ways in the community. Broken down into several sections, these taxes are used to pay for county services, school funding, trash and recycling collection, and municipal operations. These last two items are the responsibility of Pennsauken Township's local government; and the town's administration and the Township Committee have worked on a continual basis to maintain a fiscally responsible budget.

Pennsauken's 2019 budget, which is awaiting approval by the State of New Jer-



Pennsauken Township has insured that the municipal portion of residents' property tax bill remains flat.

sey, is remaining flat with a zero increase for the seventh straight year. This means that when it comes to municipal services,

trash and recycling collection, and the budget of the Pennsauken Free Public Library – which equated to 30.24 percent of last year's tax bill – residents will be paying the exact same amount as in 2018.

Each taxpayer in Pennsauken will pay a total of \$1.14 per \$100 of their property's assessed value for the town's municipal budget, trash and recycling collection, and the yearly budget for the Pennsauken Free Public Library.

"It's pretty amazing that for seven years in a row, even while expenditures are up and the Township tackles a variety of new projects, the municipal portion of the property

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Oldies Night

St. Cecilia School is hosting its 13th annual Oldies Night featuring Jerry Blavat, "The Geator with the Heater," on Saturday, May 4, 7:00 p.m. to midnight, in the school hall, 4851 Camden Ave., Pennsauken. Featuring dinner, dancing, beer and soda, 50/50, silent auction, and more. The event is BYOB. Donations are \$40; proceeds benefit St. Cecilia School. For tickets and info, call Jo Howard at (856) 662-0149 or (856) 979-9995 after 5:00 p.m.

PASA

The Pennsauken Alliance on Substance Abuse (PASA) meets on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 8, 7:00 p.m., at Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 N. Crescent Blvd. Pennsauken. PASA works to increase community awareness about substance abuse, as well as provide prevention

programs. The public is invited to attend.

Town Watch

Pennsauken's Town Watch hosts its next meeting on Wednesday, May 8, 7:30 p.m., at the Pennsauken Police Department, Second Floor. Come learn how to make our community safer. For more information, call (856) 488-0080 ext. 2417.

American Legion

American Legion Fredrick W. Griggs Post 68 will meet on Thursday, May 9, at 7:00 p.m. Because of the construction to the Merchantville Community Center, meetings will be held at Grace Episcopal Church, 7 East Maple Ave., Merchantville. All veterans who served during qualifying conflicts are welcome to join. The Post has an Auxiliary Unit which also meets at 7:00 p.m. at the same location. Any ladies who are the spouse or the daughter of a veteran are

welcome to join.

Flower Sale

Merchantville Masonic Lodge #119, 6926 Park Ave., Pennsauken, will hold its annual Mother's Day Flower Sale from May 9 to 12 in the lodge parking lot. Hours are from 9:00 a.m. until dusk, rain or shine. For more information, call Linda at (609) 923-5435.

K of C Flea Market

Knights of Columbus Council #3512 will sponsor a flea market on Saturday, May 11, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at St. Cecilia St. Cecilia's School Yard, 4851 Camden Ave., Pennsauken. Vendor spaces are available for \$15, sans table. Limited tables are available for rent at \$10 each. Proceeds raised from vendor space rentals go to charity. To rent a space or to donate goods for charity, call Lonnie at (856) 662-6049.

Communication Workshop

"Hearing NO, Saying NO" is held on Saturday, May 11, 9:00 a.m., at Trinity United Methodist Church, 36 W. Maple Ave., Merchantville. Learn how non-violent communication uses the word "no" to open up a richer dialogue. The suggested contribution is \$40. Please register in advance at <http://bit.ly/H2HMayWorkshop>, calling (856) 406-6153, or e-mailing susanweiss@heart2heartinc.org.

PHS All Years Alumni Lunch Get Together

PHS Alumni from all years are invited to a monthly lunch at the Penn Queen Diner, 7349 Rt. 130, Pennsauken. Receive a full lunch of soup or salad, four entrees to chose from, potato and vegetable, coffee, tea or soda and either ice cream, pudding or jell-o for the total price of \$20 exclusively. The

price also includes tax and tip. This month's lunch is on Wednesday, May 15, at 1:30 p.m. For more information, contact Norma at (856) 220-5597.

Neighborhood Flea Market

Temple Lutheran Church, 5600 N. Crescent Blvd. in Pennsauken, is hosting a neighborhood flea market on Saturday, May 18, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Held rain or shine, the event also features live music and food, free face painting, and more. Vendor spaces are available for a \$20 donation. To reserve a space, call (856) 663-7783.

Half Century Jets

This senior group meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m. in St. Cecilia's School Hall, 4851 Camden Ave., Pennsauken. This month's meeting will be on May 28. For more information, call (856) 662-2721.

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MAYOR'S CORNER Bringing Home A Little Bit Of Disney Magic To Pennsauken



By Jack Killion,
Mayor of
Pennsauken
Township

Last month, I had an opportunity to spend some family time in Walt Disney World, the most magical place on Earth. When I wasn't spending time with my grandson, Aiden, watching the monorail and the ferry boats, we enjoyed wonderful weather and an amazing time in the parks.

It had been years since I was last in Florida; back then, I chaperoned my daughters for sports tournaments. It was fun, but this was an altogether different experience entirely.

The folks at Disney have taken customer service to a whole new level.

Guests are made to feel special in so many different ways. From the little things, like buttons to wear for occasions like birthdays or anniversaries, to huge spectacles, like the amazing firework displays held each and every night, it's all designed to bring joy and happiness to the young and the young at heart.

Orlando can get hot. The four Disney parks can see over 150,000 guests per day. There's traffic, crowds, and lots of lines. In many places, that's a recipe for frayed nerves and tense situations. But the folks at Disney do a spectacular job making their guests feel special, regardless of the crowds or the weather. Out of the thousands of people around them, each person feels that today is their day for magic. And the feeling is contagious. No wonder so many people begin planning their trip back to visit Mickey and

Minnie as soon as they come home.

I'm sure that anyone who has a hat with mouse ears in their closet would love to see more "Disney magic" in their backyard. And no, I don't mean having Magic Bands work here in New Jersey. Think what it'd be like if more people woke up with a smile on their faces, whistled while they worked, and tried their best to bring a little joy and happiness into the lives of those around them. It'd be a whole new world.

So while I won't be wearing my ears around the house, I'm going to do my best to hold on to some of the Disney magic I found in Florida. I hope to spread it around to my family, friends, co-workers, and constituents, regardless of whether or not they're wearing a birthday pin. I encourage our residents, even if they're not Disney fans, to do the same.

Like I've said so many times before: if people treated each other with more decency and respect – and maybe a little bit of magic – the world would be a much

better place.

Now it's time to say goodbye to all our company. See you real soon. Have a great start to your summer.

Girl Scouts Recognized At Township Committee Meeting



Pennsauken Mayor Jack Killion and members of Township Committee presented a proclamation to Girls Scouts from the Camden City/Pennsauken/ Woodlynne Service Unit in recognition of National Volunteer Month and their commitment to preparing girls for a lifetime of leadership, success, and adventure.

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Moorestown – Well Cared for Home

Entryway in this home leads to double glass doorway to your office/study or third bedroom. L/R has double glass doors out to your patio with fire pit. Remodeled Kitchen features newer appliances and granite countertops, custom cabinets and tons of storage, a large center island, tile flooring, built in wine cooler and a breakfast bar. Laundry room is in the full basement. \$4000.00 credit for the roof for a reasonable offer. Roof is not leaking or damaged but it is at the end of its life. Home is a Must See. \$279,000



Cherry Hill – Fabulous Colonial

This home features a formal L/R with hwd flrs, gorgeous, updated kitchen w/updated flooring, cabinetry & counter tops. Next to the kitchen is the Breakfast Bar with recessed lighting. There is also a first floor Family Room. The 2nd floor features 4 nice sized bedrooms with ample closet space and an updated main bathroom. This home also features a nice big full basement with high ceilings. Owner started to finish it but plans changed. You can easily finish it up for additional living space. \$279,900



Pennsauken – Well Maintained

Clean, well maintained 3 bdrm, 1.5 bath Cape Cod. New kitchen and bath, hardwood flooring under carpet, full basement, 2 car garage, charming picnic area in yard. \$160,000



Brigantine – Duplex Down the Shore!

Spend your summer on the beach in Brigantine! Rent one unit and stay in the other. Don't miss this opportunity in a great location across from the beach. \$299,000



Pennsauken – SOLD

Move right in to this gracious bi-level in the quiet Chadwick section of Pennsauken. Open concept living room/dining room opens onto a large deck. Great entertaining home! Kitchen has all of the amenities you could wish for including a built in microwave oven above the gas stove. This main level also has 3 bedrooms and a full bath. The lower level features a fourth bedroom, family room with fireplace, a half bath, laundry room and garage. All on a beautifully manicured lot. \$179,900



Gibbstown – Bungalow

Adorable bungalow in Gibbstown with low taxes and No Money Down USDA eligible! Well landscaped home with enclosed front porch with tons of windows. Nice sized L/R and large D/R. Kitchen, mudroom and first floor laundry. Large fenced in back yard with a great garage for storage or that favorite car or woodshop. A full basement for more storage. More storage in a floored attic which you could also finish. Endless possibilities don't let size fool you. Such a Great home in a great town. \$135,000



Pennsauken – This one will sell fast!

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WAGSWORLD A Look At Medical Tests While Having Your Eyes Closed

By Bob Wagner,
AAP Columnist

The continuing saga of health care at Casa Wagner is taking a turn down the home stretch. I have just completed the last test for my cardiologist, Dr. Golf. The bride and most of my friends have already been down the heart health test road, and made big fun of my fear of needles and tests in general. The good news is I survived.

There was some confusion on my part over the actual contents of the test. I was in a room with three nurses, lots of electronic machines, needles, and signs warning of nuclear activity. The signs reminded me of those mounted on walls of basements all over America in the 50's, telling you where to go when the nukes started falling.

The nurses were busy setting me up for the treadmill marathon run. I was busy scrunching my eyes shut so I couldn't see needles and nuclear warning signs. While the lovely and calm nursing staff assured me I would be fine, I was

reminding them how old and delicate I had become. I asked them if they knew what a Model A was. It is a very old Ford car. Some of these cars last a long, long time, if driven gently, and not raced. I said I am an old Model A Ford person, and I have lived this long by going slow and steady, sitting in the garage a lot. They laughed, then told me to get moving. My heart rate needed to be at 127 to begin the test. I said a drive with the bride when she is late for Woman's Club would get me there in no time. They laughed, then hit me with the cattle prod.

At one point, someone was shouting directions about leaning forward, staying upright, opening eyes, and not gripping the handrails so tightly. Someone else was pushing metal things under my ribs, while a third nurse stood by with more needles, and a cattle prod. At least that is what I think was happening. I had shut my eyes two hours earlier, and wouldn't open them again until I was in the parking lot.

Many years ago, even before I was married to the bride, I stood on the skid

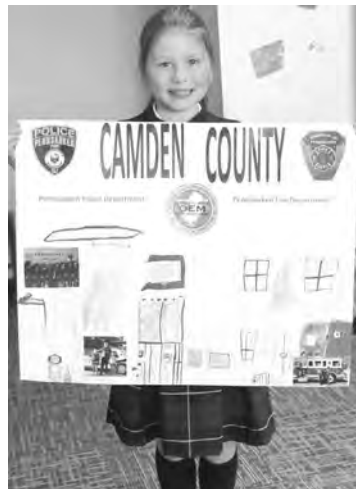
of a helicopter, chucking supplies to members of the 101st Airborne who were involved in a days-long firefight. While this went on, strangers with machine guns were shooting at me from 50 feet below. I had my eyes open the whole time. I would gladly go back and do it again, because there were no needles, electronic machines, or treadmills.

Much to my surprise, I survived the tests. When I opened my eyes in the parking lot, I embraced my Jeep like a long lost brother, and raced to the coffee shop. I forgot to mention the mandatory refrain from any caffeine from the midnight before. As my coffee kicked in and pipe smoke billowed about my head outside the Station House, I wondered about my results. Dr. Golf will not be in his office 'till he returns from his vacation whacking balls, about the same time you read this. Until then, I will remain busy with my new antique pipe stand that I got this weekend from my friends, Jaclyn and Mike, at Merchantville Antiques and Salvage. Mr. Mike has a collection of neat old pipes that want to come live in my house, and I have a garage full of

old stuff that wants to go to the antique store. Until the final reports are tallied, I shall be sitting in the garage, if you need

me. I'll be working from my lawn chair, polishing my new pipe stand, and cleaning briar pipes, with my eyes wide open.

Students Highlight Pennsauken For Camden County Poster Contest



Students from Resurrection Catholic participated in a poster contest sponsored by the Camden County Board of Freeholders. Students were asked to design a poster highlighting what they thought made Camden County special. Fourth graders Isabel Hertline and Brandon Patti highlighted Pennsauken!

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PENNSAUKEN MAY PUBLIC MEETINGS

Township Committee
5:30 p.m. Thursday, May 2, 16, and 30

Zoning Board of Adjustment
7:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 1 and 15

Planning Board
6:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 7 and 28

Meetings are open to the public
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Wine And Cheese Tasting, Art Exhibition Held On May 19

On Sunday, May 19, the Strain Estate, better known as Inglesby & Sons Funeral Home, will be hosting a special fundraiser for the Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library: a wine and cheese tasting event along with a silent art auction, all of which will raise funds for the Library's very popular Museum Pass program.

The museum passes permit Pennsauken Free Public Library patrons to visit 16 different local attractions for free, including the Battleship New Jersey, Academy of Natural Sciences, Independence Seaport Museum, and Grounds for Sculpture.

Although the Museum Pass program can be enjoyed by Pennsauken Library card holders of all ages, this event is for adults only. This fundraiser will be held at 2426 N. Cove Rd. in Pennsauken, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m., in the public rooms of the historic estate and on its beautifully landscaped grounds. In case of inclement weather, the entire event will move inside.

For just \$20 per person, attendees will be able to taste five different wines from New Jersey vineyards; enjoy assorted cheeses and other light refreshments; and gaze at carefully vetted hanging art: paintings, drawings, photographs, mixed

media, etc. All art displayed is the work of local artists, many of whom will be present at our local "gallery." All artwork is for sale through a silent art auction, with a portion of the price going to the Friends specifically for the Museum Pass program.

For those who want more than a taste

of a local wine, additional samplings can be purchased at \$5 a glass. And a few lucky door prize winners will get to take a bottle home!

Tickets may be purchased in advance by sending a check or money order for \$20 per person to: Friends of the Pennsauken Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.,

Pennsauken, NJ 08110. On the day of the event, credit cards will be accepted for payment of tickets and artwork.

Your support of a community-based program that allows Pennsauken Library card holders to participate in the amazing cultural arts in our area is greatly appreciated.

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Summer Fun From Pennsauken Parks and Recreation

Both children and adults can add more fun and excitement to the summer months with entertaining and educational programs offered through Pennsauken's Department of Parks and Recreation.

FOR CHILDREN

Summer Fun Camp—6.5 Hours, 7 Weeks

This is a program for children in kindergarten through grade six. They will enjoy weekly field trips and visits to the Pennsauken Municipal Pool. Camp is seven weeks from 8:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., June 24 through Aug. 9 at Franklin Elementary, 7201 Irving Ave. Cost is \$135 per week and includes materials, trips and snacks. Attendees must bring a packed lunch.

Bowling

This exciting camp will be at the amazing Pinsetter Bowling Center on Maple Ave. in Pennsauken. Basic bowling instruction will be provided by qualified instructors and skills competitions for prizes will be held the last day of the camp. The program runs from 10:30 a.m. to noon on July 8-12 and is for kids ages 7-13. The fee is \$45 for the week and includes shoes and ball.

Football

The Diggs Football Camp is open to ages 6-18. Held July 22-26, 9:00 a.m. to noon, at the Pennsauken Football Field, 4250 Burwood Ave., attendees will enjoy five days of instructive and competitive football. Appropriate attire is shorts and a t-shirt; campers should bring football cleats, but sneakers are also acceptable. This is a NON-CONTACT camp. Each camper will receive a t-shirt and medal upon completion of the camp. The cost is \$30 per camper. Registration deadline is July 15.

Intro To Hip Hop

Come and join the fun for an introduction to hip hop dance. Learn basic movements in the style of today's popular music for kids ages 6-14. The camp will be from June 24-28, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. for ages 6-10, and from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. for ages 11-14. Wear comfortable clothing and sneakers. Instruction is by a qualified dance instructor from Ronnie McLaughlin Dance Studio, 198 Church Rd., Merchantville. Cost is \$30 per student.

Ice Skating

The Youth Learn to Skate camp will be held at the Philadelphia Flyers Skate Zone on River Rd. in Pennsauken. Children ages 2-17 will learn basic skating techniques for figure skating or hockey. The program is offered from 8:45 to 10:00 a.m. Aug. 13-17. Cost is \$35 per child. Skates are available for free if needed. Helmets are mandatory for all children 17 and under.

Junior Fire Academy

The Junior Fire Academy will be held at the Bloomfield Fire House, 5301 Lexington Ave. Children ages 12-16 will be introduced to the work of a firefighter and develop the skills of teamwork, time management, and responsibility



in a fun and education environment. Attendees will participate in short classroom sessions and complete multiple hands-on activities and field assignments. The academy will be held from July 15-19, 9:00 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday; and 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Friday. Cost is \$30 per child and includes t-shirt, hat, all required materials and safety equipment, as well as water, snacks, and refreshments.

Karate

Pennsauken Township and Hwa-Rang Warriors Taekwondo Studio present summer karate at 5043 Westfield Ave. in Pennsauken. The objective of this camp is to use martial arts as a vehicle to build character, self-control, as well as respect for others. Children will receive a white belt on the last day of class. This camp, for children ages 5-13, is from July 22-26. Times are 9:45 to 10:45 a.m. for ages 5-8 and 11:00 a.m. to noon for ages 9-13. Cost is \$30 per child.

Learn To Golf

Kids ages 7-13 can learn the basic skills of the golf game. The qualified instructor will teach the children about the game, including club selection, course etiquette and the correct club grip. The program will be held at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Haddonfield Rd., June 24-28 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. The fee for this program is \$30.

Learn To Row

Children ages 12-18 will learn the basics of rowing along the Cooper River. Taught by qualified instructors, this program will give participants a taste of rowing on the water. The Learn to Row program will be held at the Camden County Boathouse, 7050 N. Park Dr., Pennsauken. Session I runs from June 17-20; Session II runs June 24-27. Each session is held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The cost is \$75 per session. Double session discounts will be offered to those who are interested.

Multi-Media Art Creations

Explore an array of mediums in this art class that includes clay, fiber, paper, jewelry, and found objects. We will pick a theme for the week upon which our works will be created. Individual expression will be highly encouraged. This class is



all about thinking outside the box. Class will be held at the Pennsauken Municipal Building Meeting Room July 22-26 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. The fee for this one week program is \$45. For kids ages 7-13.

Sports

The Ike Willis Sports Camps are sponsored by the Pennsauken Parks and Recreation Department and will be held from 9:30 a.m. to noon. Camps are open to all Pennsauken and Merchantville children ages 7-14. The dates for each program are as follows: Field Hockey or Soccer – June 24-28; Basketball – July 8-12; Tennis – July 15-19; Baseball and Softball – July 22-26. Cost is \$35 per week and each child receives a T-shirt at the end of each camp. Field Hockey and Soccer Camps will be held at the Community Recreation Complex, 1601 Bethel Ave. Basketball Camp will be at Carson Elementary School, 4150 Garfield Ave. Tennis Camp will be held at the Green Top Tennis Court on River Rd. Baseball and Softball Camps will be at the Softball Complex behind the Pennsauken Police Station on Bethel Ave.

Swimming

Pennsauken Township will offer a learn to swim program for children ages 5-11 at the Municipal Pool, 6100 River Rd. Dates for morning sessions are June 25-27 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; dates for evening sessions are June 18-20 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The fee for this program is \$20 per child for all three days, morning or evening sessions. Certified lifeguards with CPR training will instruct both sessions. The goal of this camp is to teach children the proper swim strokes and for kids to learn to respect water and not fear it.

Theater

The annual and very popular Creative Theater Class returns again from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. on July 29-Aug. 2 at the Burling Elementary, 3600 Harris Ave. Children, ages 7-14, will learn stage movement, vocal projection, character study and improvisational games. They will create their own story and perform it on video for friends and family on the last day of class. The cost is \$50 for the week; the program is operated by the Pennsauken Youth Summer Theater Program.

FOR ADULTS

Adult Horseshoe Program

This is not a club, no dues, just friendly competition. All Pennsauken residents are welcome to participate from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesdays behind the Pennsauken Free Public Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. For additional information call Mike at (856) 488-5325, Al at (609) 220-0596 or the Pennsauken Parks and Recreation Department at (856) 665-1000 ext. 151.

Free Adult Tennis Lessons

Tennis lessons for Pennsauken adults 18 and up will be held at the green top tennis courts on River Rd. The classes will be from 6:15 to 8:15 p.m. during July. Exact dates are to be announced. Instruction will be provided by a qualified tennis instructor. Space is limited, so don't delay. Call the Parks and Recreation Department for details.

Learn-To-Swim

If there is enough interest, there will be an adult learn-to-swim program for beginners and those who would like to work on breathing and stroke. Call the Parks and Recreation Department for details.

FOR FAMILIES

Join The Municipal Pool

The Parks and Recreation Department will begin accepting membership applications and fees for the 2019 pool season beginning on May 6. The Municipal Pool, located at 6100 River Rd., is open to Pennsauken and Merchantville residents only and all applicants must provide a photo ID, current utility bill and birth certificate and report card for children. The pool opens 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. weekends only beginning on May 25. Starting June 15, the pool will be open from noon to 8:00 p.m. daily. Pool fees and other information are available through the Pennsauken Parks and Recreation Department.

TO REGISTER

Registration for most summer programs begins on May 6 at the Pennsauken Municipal Building, Rt. 130 and Merchantville Ave. Forms are available at the municipal building from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Program listings and downloadable registration forms are available at the Township web site: www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/summer-programs. For more information, contact the Department of Parks and Recreation at emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us or (856) 665-1000 ext. 151.

Fallen Soldiers Remembered At Local Memorial Day Events

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

In observance of Memorial Day, members of the community and local veterans groups will hold ceremonies this month to remember and honor those men and women who lost their lives in service of their country in the Armed Forces. There are several opportunities for members of the local community to recognize all those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for the freedoms we enjoy each day.

Placing Flags On Veterans' Graves

American Legion F.W. Grigg Post 68 annually places over 2,000 flags on the graves of those veterans buried in local cemeteries. Members of the community are invited to join in this effort.

This year's schedule is as follows: Jordantown (Jordan's Lawn) Cemetery, 3600 Haddonfield Rd., Pennsauken, Friday, May 17, 10:00 a.m.; Bethel Cemetery, 1620 Cove Rd., Pennsauken, Saturday, May 18, 8:30 a.m.; and Sunset Memorial Park, 1605 Union Ave., Tuesday, May 21, 6:00 p.m.

This is a family friendly event and a wonderful learning opportunity for young people to witness the sacrifice made by those who served in the armed forces of our nation. For those wishing to participate, sturdy shoes and a pair of work gloves are recommended.

Ceremonies On Memorial Day Weekend

There are several moving ceremonies held during Memorial Day weekend that the community is invited to attend.

VFW Post 1270, located at 2324 Penn St. in Pennsauken, right off of Rt. 130 and Cove Rd., will hold its annual wreath laying ceremony on Sunday, May 26, at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony features the laying of wreaths at the Post, an honor guard rifle salute, and the playing of "Taps."

At 11:45 a.m. that same day, Pennsauken Township will hold a special ceremony with VFW Post 1270, AMVETS Post 101, and American Legion F.W. Grigg Post 68 at Liberty Park, located on the corner of Merchantville and Westfield avenues.

AMVETS Post 101, located at 519 June Rd. in Delair, will hold its wreath laying ceremony on Monday, May 27, at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony begins at the post and then moves to the World War II/Korean War memorial, located on River Rd.

F.W. Grigg Post 68 will hold its annual Memorial Day service on Monday, May 27, at Wellwood Park, located at Linden and Maple avenues in Merchantville. The theme of this year's program is

"honor." The service begins promptly at 10:00 a.m.

During the event, area Boy and Girl Scout units will present the colors. Additionally, local organizations will place memorial wreaths on the World War I and World War II Memorial Monuments. Light refreshments will be provided after the service. In the event of rain, the service will be held at the Merchantville Community Center, 212 Somerset Ave., Merchantville.

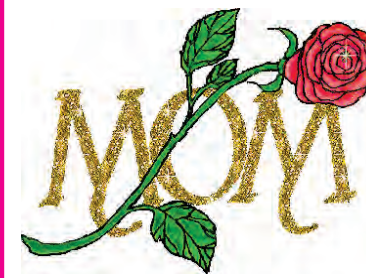
Online Wall Of Honor Recognizes Veterans

Located on Pennsauken Township's website, Pennsauken's online Wall of Honor recognizes Township residents, past or present, living or deceased, that proudly served in our nation's armed forces.

This is not a complete list and will be periodically updated. If individuals know of a past or present resident, living or dead, who has served in the military that is currently not included on the Wall of Honor, they can submit the name via an easy-to-use online form.

To view the list or to submit a name, visit www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/content/pennsauken-wall-honor.

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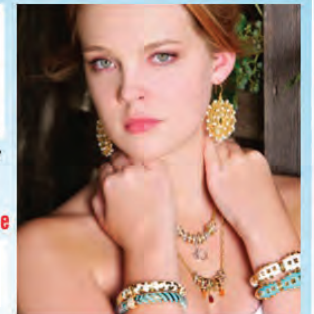
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Rosenberger NA Donates \$1,000 To Pennsauken Police



As part of their commitment to the local community, Pennsauken-based Rosenberg NA made a \$1,000 donation to the Pennsauken Township Police Department, which will go to help support the Junior Police Academy, the Police Explorer Program, and Team Pennsauken Police Unity Tour.

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Pennsauken Police Recognized By Camden County Women's Center

Camden County Women's Center honored Pennsauken Township Police department at the fourth annual "Friends of CCWC" event. Pennsauken Police received the Law Enforcement Award for Excellence in Action Against Domestic Violence. This award recognizes an exceptional law enforcement body that works side by side the Domestic Violence Response Team of CCWC, to protect the rights and wellbeing of victims of domestic violence, while also lowering recidivism for the department, together.

"On behalf of the Pennsauken Township Police Department; our domestic violence liaisons Detective Aerika Long, Officer Evette Truitt, and Officer Nicole Kulyk; as well as Pennsauken Mayor Jack Killian, Public Safety Director Bill Orth, and Township Committeeman Marco



The Pennsauken Township Police Department was recognized by Camden County Women's Center with the Law Enforcement Award for Excellence in Action Against Domestic Violence.

DiBattista, I want to thank the Camden County Women's Center for this award," says Pennsauken Police Chief John Nettleton. "The Pennsauken Police Department truly values our working relationship

with the Camden County Women's Center to provide support services to victims of domestic violence."

For more on the work of Camden County Women's Center, visit CamdenCountyWomensCenter.org.

Team Pennsauken Rides For Fallen Officers On May 10

Team Pennsauken is made up of members of the Pennsauken and Merchantville Police Departments who ride bicycles with the Police Unity Tour Chapter II. The three-day Police Unity Tour begins in South Jersey on Friday, May 10, with riders visiting some of the towns where officers have fallen in the line of duty before departing New Jersey en route to the National Law Enforcement Memorial in Washington DC. The officers

bike close to 300 miles during the tour.

"Team Pennsauken" apparel is available for purchase at the Pennsauken Township Police Department, 2400 Bethel Ave., between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. The team's logo is on the front of the shirts; on the back are the names of the Pennsauken Township Police Officers who lost their lives in the line of duty: Officer William Brey, Officer George Bowman, and Officer Dick Dawson. Short

sleeve and Dri-FIT shirts are \$20, long sleeve shirts are \$25, and sweatshirts are \$40; all proceeds go to creating awareness of law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty, as well as to raise funds for the National Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial and Museum.

For more information, visit "Police Unity Tour-Team Pennsauken" on Facebook.

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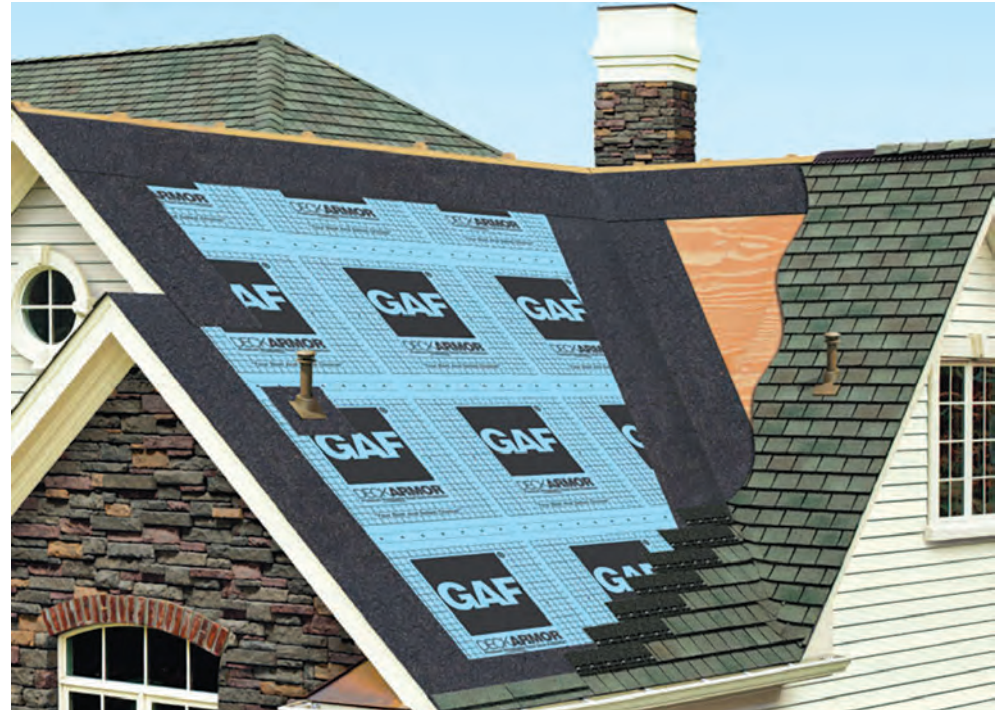
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SENIORCORNER

Camden County Offers Free Senior Golf Lessons

By Sonny DiSabato,
Senior Citizen Coordinator

Hello fellow seniors.

The Camden County Board of Freeholders is offering free senior golf lessons. Held at the Camden County Golf Academy, 8001 S. Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken, the spring session of lessons will be held Tuesdays and Wednesdays, May 14 and 15, 21 and 22, 28 and

29, as well as June 4 and 5. Seniors can choose from 10:00 and 11:00 a.m.

To register online, visit www.camden-county.com/service/parks/camden-county-golf-academy.

Wishing you all health and happiness. Please say a prayer for all those in the Armed Forces serving in harm's way.

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Pennsauken Police Warn Residents Regarding Scams

The Pennsauken Police Department has been receiving reports of different scams that are going on.

The common factor in these scams is that the predator requests the victim to send money either by some sort of money transfer or a prepaid card. Another type of scam is where the predator will send the victim a check for a large

sum of money that the victim is supposed to deposit in their checking account. The victim is then supposed to send the predator a portion of the deposited money and keep the rest for himself/herself. After the victim sends the money to the predator, they later find out that the check bounced.

If you are contacted by someone with

an offer that seems too good to be true, it is probably a scam. If you have any doubts, please contact Pennsauken Police before you send any funds or personal information to anyone. We will come out to speak with you and help determine if indeed it is a scam.

The non-emergency dispatch of the Pennsauken Police Department is (856) 663-1234.

Pennsauken Township Police To Recognize Officers During Annual Awards Ceremony

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

During National Police Week, an annual event dedicated to not only honor America's law enforcement community, but also remember those officers that lost their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others, the Pennsauken Police Department will

hold a special awards ceremony on Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 p.m., at the Pennsauken High School auditorium, 800 Hylton Rd., to recognize courageous men and women who go above and beyond to protect and serve the Pennsauken community.

Awards fall into several categories

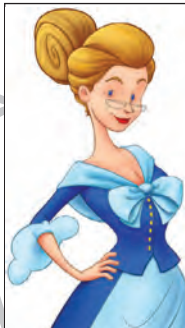
named in honor of Pennsauken Police Officers who died in the line of duty: Officer William Brey, Officer George Bowman, and Officer Dick Dawson.

This awards ceremony is open to the public and members of the Pennsauken community are invited to attend.

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GRAYMATTERS Enough Spring Cleaning To Last Through Fall

By Judith Kristen,
AAP Columnist

Well, spring has sprung and I am doing the official spring house cleaning, which at this point looks like it just might take long enough to call it the official spring, summer, and fall house cleaning. Maybe the house cleaning might not take that long, but when I took a good look inside my car yesterday, THERE is where it becomes that spring, summer, and fall thing.

In truth, I do my best to keep up with it, but I LIVE in my car! Oh, sure, I sleep at home, although I have napped in the car at rest stops. But let me explain.

I have travelled over 6,000 miles since Christmas; visiting students to tutor; organizing a teen writers guild 68 miles away from here; transporting rescued

dogs and cats to their new homes or to the vet; and driving our Sophie over to Pennsauken's own Bow Wow Dog Park. Those translate into cat and dog treat crumbs, as well as a few empty Chick-fil-a and Arby's bags as well. The car was also holding four bags of clothing I had in there to deliver to Goodwill and the veterans' clothing drop. And yes, I did deliver them.

Then, I pulled an additional six bags of things out of the car yesterday... and that does not include four carry-alls that were totally empty. Why they were there, I have no clue.

There were also 96 "Mookie and the Rescued Cat" books in the back of the car. I always keep a supply for when I'm on tour with them. It just seems easier to leave them there than to lug them in and

out of the house all the time.

As I started to look into the six bags I brought back in with me, I found a defroster can for the windshield, paper towels, three of Sophie's half-chewed dog bones, five Kong balls, and enough of her fur to knit me a cardigan sweater every month for three years straight.

There was also an expired insurance card, my favorite lipstick that has been missing for over a month, and \$5.43 in change. In addition, I found an empty Aunt Charlotte's bag, which once held a quarter pound of chocolate truffles. Which reminds me, I need to make a visit to my favorite Aunt very soon.

There was a dog brush, an old Beatles bubblegum card, 15 Euros, and, how ironic, a "five dollars off" coupon for the Westfield Avenue Car Wash.

There was also one of my bedroom slippers! Don't ask; your guess is as good as mine.

So that said, I will finish up this column from my nice, neat, and clean office, and then head out to my discounted car

cleaning on the other side of 130. And on the way back, I'm stopping in for a visit at Aunt Charlotte's. A girl's gotta' do,

whatta' girl's gotta' do!

Peace and love, and Swiffers, Windex, and chocolate for everyone! ~Judy

Residents Invited To Join Pennsauken's Community Garden

Got a green thumb just itching to grow something? If so, there's a plot with your name on it at the Pennsauken Community Garden this season! No green thumb? No experience? No problem! There's still a plot at the Pennsauken Community Garden you can make all your own while you learn the ins and outs of gardening; and meet a lot of wonderful people ready to help you get the hang of it!

Now in its fifth year, the Pennsauken Community Garden has expanded and is offering extra individual plots to offer on a first come, first served basis. The garden is located directly behind the Pennsauken Free Public Library and the cost for the season is only \$15 per plot. Of course, it'll be up to you what you

want to plant. What will it be? Veggies? Flowers? Watermelons? Pumpkins?

There are also piles of topsoil and mulch you're free to use, along with wheelbarrows to help you carry each load back to your space. We'll even supply hoes, rakes, shovels, trowels, and other assorted garden tools you can borrow from the shed. You'll just need to water, weed, and enjoy your harvest once your crops come in!

If you'd like to expand your gardening experience or learn what it takes to become a grower, you're invited to meet at the site on Saturday, May 4, at 10:00 a.m. to sign up, pick a plot, and get started. If you can't make it then, please call Eileen at (856) 224-4625 to let her know you're interested and to reserve a space.



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Sweeney Tours Pennsauken High School's CTE Programs



Air Force JROTC Commander Stafford and Vice Commander Santos pose with New Jersey Senate President Steve Sweeney, who toured Pennsauken High School's CTE programs and discussed the potential of expanding these programs.



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Middle School Students Visit Rowan's College Of Engineering

Each marking period this year, eighth grade engineering students are selected to attend a STEAM field trip to the Henry M. Rowan College of Engineering at Rowan University. Our most recent Rowan engineering event in March was the third trip to Rowan this year to teach students about robotics, coding, and engineering! The students also learned about the importance of time management and teamwork needed in many college classes. These students were selected based on their grades, class participation, and interest shown in their seventh grade robotics, eighth grade engineering and/or eighth grade science classes.

The day's itinerary included an engineering overview presentation, demonstrations of a robotic arm and a drone, an engineering scavenger hunt, a question/answer session, and safe hands-on engineering activities. Some of the exciting STEAM labs were: Arduino coding a traffic light; a coffee filtration/solubility experiment; and an opportunity to design their own parachutes.

The student fan favorite was absolutely the parachute experiment! Students were challenged to create a parachute using cardboard, paper,

straws, and a cup that would effectively contain marshmallows when being dropped off a 20-foot balcony. The parachute items were assigned a cost. In the end, the student group that created the parachute that would be the lightest, most cost effective, and would hold the most marshmallows after being dropped from a balcony would be the winning engineering team! All of the kids were super excited to work with their team, compete against each other, and see everybody's innovative designs.

Another highlight of the day was when the students were able to observe and operate a robotic arm. The Rowan engineering students were impressed with how well our Phifer students were able to program the arm to grasp and release objects.

The students also enjoyed touring the various engineering classrooms and were able to learn about cool engineering projects the students have worked on, such as the "Mars Ice Challenge," 3D printing, and even a hover bike!

This was truly a trip our future Phifer engineers will remember for a long time. Ms. McSweeney, Ms. Allen, and Ms. Ratkevic are looking forward to our final trip to Rowan this month!

Fine Holds First Ever Multiplication And Division Bee

Third grade students at George B. Fine School competed in the school's first annual multiplication and division bee. All of Fine's third grade students participated in a challenging competition of the multiplication and division facts that they have been working on since the beginning of the school year.

Prizes were awarded from local merchants, including free games of bowling at Pinsetter's and free extra value meals from the McDonald's on Rt. 73 in Pennsauken. Two grand prize winners were awarded two tickets to a Philadelphia Phillies game vs. the New York Mets, generously donated by the Phillies organization.

The students competed with excitement and sportsmanship!



Third graders at Fine Elementary competed in the school's first annual multiplication and division bee.

Teacher And Author Christina Daly Visits Franklin



Christina Daly, an art teacher at Carson Elementary and children's author, read her book, "Henry the Green Zebra-Pig," to Franklin students and their families.

Franklin Elementary School was thrilled to welcome Christina Daly, art teacher at Carson Elementary and children's author, to our library in March. Christina entertained the students with a reading of her book, "Henry the Green Zebra-Pig," an adorable story that teaches that being different is awesome!

Students and their parents enjoyed listening to the story and then completing a craft, making Henry the Green Zebra-Pig masks and bookmarks! Fun was had by all, and we are thrilled to have welcomed yet another published author from within the Pennsauken School District to meet and talk with our students.

Celebrating Franklin Students Of The Month



Congratulations to Franklin's Students of the Month for February.

Twenty fantastic Franklin students earned Student of the Month for February! These children exemplified the true meaning of being an outstanding student, not only in the classroom, but throughout the entire building at Benjamin Franklin Elementary School.

Being student of the month is a great honor and students celebrated with pretzels and juice with Mrs. Galloza, principal,

and Mr. Jakubowski, school counselor. Congratulations to Nina Melendez, Genesis Green, Ayishah Hossain, Taylor Gray, Tyseen Lacy, Sophia Tran, Betzaray Pacheco, Lorelei Rapciwicz, Aubrey Lympier, Brandon Trinidad, Myles Mateo, Skylar Almero, Ghandi Abouharb, Isaias Lebron, Lamessa Hossain, Makayla Kee, Myasia DeShields, Victoria Thai, Coraline Bridgeman, and Eli Barrientos.

Hats Off To Fight Cancer At Fine



Fine Principal Mr. Honeyman got "pied" to help raise funds to battle leukemia and lymphoma.

Fine teacher Tracey Drummonds and the school's student council organized a fundraiser where students could wear a hat for \$1 donation to The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and get their name entered into a raffle to "pie a teacher." Fine students were quick to help those in need, but students wore all kinds of fun hats throughout the day and then congregated in the gym to watch several teachers get "pied in the face" for a good cause. Mr. Honeyman even joined in on the fun!

Fine students raised nearly \$400 for the cause and were reminded that their generosity could potentially help someone get better or even find a cure!

Family BINGO Night At Fine Elementary

On March 26, George B. Fine first and second grade families joined together for a family involvement BINGO night.

Eighteen families shared in pizza, salad, laughs, literacy tips for home involvement, and of course, B-I-N-G-O! Dessert was provided by participating families.

The event was hosted by Ms. Cooper, Mrs. DiCarlo, Mrs. Doyle, Mrs. Seaver, Mrs. Hodges, Mrs. Drechsel, and Mr. Honeyman. Ms. Cooper kept the crowd entertained with her enthusiastic number calling. Students won books, crayons, pencils, bowling passes, and stuffed rabbits. The night was a huge success; but more importantly, families were excited to implement the literacy tips they learned with the books their children had won.

It is always rewarding to see students and families enjoying each other's company outside of the school day as well!

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Phifer Teams Compete In STEAM Tank Challenge

During Ms. McSweeney, Ms. Allen, and Ms. Ratkevic's eighth grade engineering class and seventh grade robotics-related art class, our students were presented with the STEAM Tank Challenge, a competition sponsored by the New Jersey School Boards Association

and the U.S. Army that encourages students in the areas of STEAM: science, technology, engineering, the arts and math. Students were to come up with an original idea of a product that they would like to invent using the "engineering design process" that would poten-

tially solve a real-world problem.

After hundreds of submissions from all over New Jersey, we are proud to announce that three Phifer Middle School teams were chosen to compete in the STEAM Tank South Jersey Regional Competition to pitch their ideas! Only 300 teams in New Jersey made it to the regionals, which took place in March.

The Phifer teams who competed were: the "Thundershirt," Lakyras Lasser, Liranny Martinez, Nicholas Bonilla and Nicole Garcia; the "Swoop Phone Grabber," Emma Ramirez, Judeah Centeno, Malina Chun, and Tep-Keo Monny Him; and the "Zero Gravity Rocking Chair," Kaitlyn Thach, Madison Reyes, and Nhien V. Dinh. Our young innovators did an excellent job pitching their ideas to the NJSBA and the U.S. Army judges! They also answered a series of questions to demonstrate how their product will be different than what already exists.

Phifer sponsored a pizza party for our students to reward them for their hard work and dedication to their projects. Wish us luck as we are hoping our Phifer student engineers make it on to the finals, which will take place in Atlantic City this coming fall!



Three teams from Phifer Middle School competed in the STEAM Tank Challenge, a competition that encourages students in the areas of science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math.

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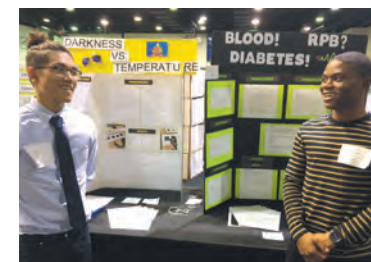
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BOE Meeting

The Pennsauken Board of Education will hold a business meeting on Thursday, May 9, 6:30 p.m., at Pennsauken High School, 800 Hylton Rd., Room #327. The public is invited to attend.

Visit our Web Site
www.pennsauken.net

High School Students Compete In Coriell Science Fair



Pennsauken High School had four winners in an annual science fair held by the Coriell Institute for Medical Research.

For more than 30 years, the Coriell Institute for Medical Research has hosted its annual science fair, showcasing the very best of South Jersey's science programs. Pennsauken High School had six students participate: Jim Gazi, Cameron Connelly, Elijah Mack, Joshua Nsubuga, Chau Tran, and Steven Huynh.

Chau Tran took first place for physics, grades 11 and 12; Steven Huynh took first place for physics, grades 9 and 10; Jim Gazi took first place for chemistry, grades 9 and 10; and Elijah Mack took second place for biochemistry, grades 9 and 10. In addition, Jim Gazi won the American Chemical Society Award, which came with a \$100 prize. All of the winners went on to compete in the Delaware Valley Science Fair, which is hosted by Drexel University.



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Baldwin Students Enjoy “Eyes Of The Wild” Assembly



Baldwin Early Childhood Learning Center experienced an “Eyes of the Wild” assembly. Children learned that most animals observed in the wild do not make great pets. Kataleya Klotz from Ms. Parker’s class is seen here petting a chinchilla.

Carson ELL Students Learn About Community Helpers



Ms. Cinalli’s first grade ELL class at Carson enjoyed their unit on community helpers. To celebrate what they learned, they created their own skit, which they shared with Ms Fidyk’s preschool class! Here they are pictured in their costumes: a librarian, cashier, veterinarian, mail carrier, and two students!

PENNSAUKEN SCHOOL NEWS

For further information about the articles or events published in the Pennsauken School News section of “All Around Pennsauken” please contact:

Nicole Roberts, Editor nicole.roberts@pennsauken.net

From The Classroom To The Cathedral Kitchen



Mrs. Jalosjos’ class at Baldwin made “rainbow” placemats for the Cathedral Kitchen’s dining room. The Cathedral Kitchen is a non-profit organization that provides nutritious meals for impoverished residents of Camden. The students worked very hard making the placemats colorful and beautiful for the families dining at the Cathedral Kitchen. Our goal is to brighten up their day with rainbows and sunshines.

Action Karate Visits Delair For Special Presentation



Delair students and staff were treated to a fun-filled presentation by Action Karate. Instructor Mr. Matthew Brenner taught as our fantastic students and staff a variety of martial arts self-defense building skills that promote, focus, discipline, and self confidence, as well as improving their health and fitness well being.

Students Enjoy Delair PTA Movie Night



In March, Delair Elementary PTA hosted a fun movie night featuring “Ralph Breaks The Internet.” Many students enjoyed the evening with their family and friends; and snacks and drinks were on sale to help raise funds for the PTA. Thank you to everyone who came out to support this great event!

Fine Blows Bubbles For Autism Awareness



On April 2, students and educators wore colors associated with autism awareness, had a discussion about what autism is, and celebrated everyone’s uniqueness by blowing bubbles. Special needs teacher, Kim Rodriguez organized the day.

Franklin Students Send Cards And Letters To Soldiers Overseas



Mrs. Rivera, seen here with her son, Sgt. Angel Rivera, helped coordinate the collection of cards and letters for soldiers serving overseas in Qatar.

Classes at Franklin School made card and letters to American soldiers to help them feel a little better about their time spent overseas. The idea came from Sgt. Angel Rivera, a recent graduate of Pennsauken High School and the son of Mrs. Rivera, an educational assistant at Franklin.

When talking to his mother, Sgt. Rivera said he and his fellow soldiers would love to receive cards and letters of encouragement from Franklin students, while the enlisted men and women are serving in the country of Qatar.



By the Pennsauken Board of Education: Nick Perry, President; Diane Johnson, Vice President; Michael Bortnowski; Michael Hurley; Maria James; Samer John Jarbough-Rafeh; Scott La Vine; Orlando Viera; and JoAnn Young

School boards in the State of New Jersey are required to adhere to strict rules and regulations when it comes to open meeting and public record laws. In the age of transparency, the Pennsauken Board of Education values the input of all residents, educators, staff members, advocates, and students. The Pennsauken BOE's mission is not just to provide a top quality education for all students, but to empower Pennsauken residents to be informed of decisions being made in the Pennsauken School District. We want your voices to be heard. Transparency builds trust; and when trust is high, both the local board and the community can thrive.

The International City Management Association, a leading local government accreditation organization, discusses the following benefits of local board transparency.

The Age Of Transparency: Vibrant School Boards, Engaged Residents

Building Community Trust

Making information public through media platforms or through standard meetings is an empowering act. This helps build trust and bridge the gap between the citizen and a governing body.

Gaining New Ideas

Residents who regularly attend board meetings and are aware of agenda items are free to speak on any outstanding matters. Public comment portions of meetings are a time for your voice to be heard and have the board gain a new perspective in solving a particular problem.

Increasing Community Engagement

Transparency increases citizen participation. The board has a communications committee that supports outreach events, town halls, and works on maximizing resident input.

Understanding Community Needs

When there is citizen participation, the board can gain insight into what the school and community needs are from listening to stakeholders.

Empowering Residents

Trust builds empowerment. When trust is high, citizens begin to feel they can take responsibility and get more involved.

Attracting Citizens To Government

When local government or boards are viewed in a positive light, more residents are attracted to serving their communities.

Boosting The Economy

Transparent local governments are attractive to businesses and potential homebuyers. Progressive governing bodies gain respect to investors that could bring more financial prosperity to Pennsauken Township.

Fostering Education

Knowledge is the first step in making a change. A board that engages informed constituents builds a community that is vibrant and therefore results in a higher quality of life for all.

The Pennsauken Board of Education was elated to find out that the recent Graduation Survey has been answered by several hundred Pennsauken residents! The Board of Education has heard your voice and will make the best decision possible based off of citizen engagement; what is the most fiscally responsible; and what is most practical for future graduations. There is a positive culture shift happening within in the Pennsauken community, and the Pennsauken Board of Education is excited to be able to engage residents in the process of building a top quality education system in New Jersey.

Delair Celebrates Gardening Grant



The Garden Club at Delair was awarded a grant from New Jersey Learning Through Gardening and the school held a kick off pep rally on March 15. Students will be spending time in the garden, finding out about where their food comes from, learning about how seeds grow, and watching their vegetables come to life!

Cat In The Hat Makes Special Appearance At Delair



The Cat in the Hat from the New Jersey Education Association visited Delair School as part of Read Across America Week. Delair's special guest was accompanied by his "Cat Security" Guard, Mrs. Laura Gannon, a teacher at the school.



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A Look At The Changes To Pennsauken's Rental Property Fees

By Tracey Howarth,
Pennsauken Township

When you are presented with a situation that opens the door to revisit the past and take the best parts of that time, add some new parts and create something really strong, you take the chance, especially if it lays the ground work for a solid foundation for the future. You have to put the work in and move through all the obstacles, no matter how much push back you get. It won't be easy, but as Theodore Roosevelt said, "Nothing in the world is worth having or worth doing unless it means effort, pain and difficulty." If you strongly believe in the changes you are making, that they are right and fair to all, then you have to stay true to the plan you put together.

That's what happened with Pennsauken Township's rental program. We were presented with a situation that forced us to look at the total program. We sat down and started really dissecting everything related to rental properties. Once we finished studying the elements of our current program, we realized a few facts. We have a great rental

coordinator, Patte Magro, who has been managing our rental, Section 8, and HUD programs manually for over 10 years. The town's registration program was 22 years old and had not moved forward with the times; ordinances for both registrations and maintenance were also outdated; and given the upsurge in the rental market and the rapidly growing use of Airbnb type concepts, now was the time to make changes that would carry us through the next several years.

We were approached by our partners at Camden County and ProChamps with an opportunity to assist in building a program that is more time efficient for the landlords, as well as the Township. Something adaptable that can be rolled out to all of the other townships in Camden County, giving them the tools to register, maintain, and enforce their rental property programs.

Before I go through how we went about getting where we are today, let me share some statistics with you. We have, on average, 1,000 registered rental properties annually. Seventy percent of those properties are owned by individuals or

investors that live outside of Pennsauken. They are not Pennsauken residents. The remaining 30 percent are owned by individuals or investors that live or operate in town. Understanding those statistics alone will help you to understand why we felt it necessary to make the changes that we made.

We started at the beginning: registrations. We read over the existing registration ordinance and reviewed the actual process of registering a rental property. Given that the existing ordinance was 22 years old, the cost of \$75 in 1996 was significantly lower than the actual cost of getting a rental property registered in 2019. Pennsauken's Chief Financial Officer did the cost analysis on the program and found that the actual cost of registering a rental property today, when all factors are taken into consideration, is \$360 per property. This number includes the cost of the registration process itself, the initial rental inspection, the follow up inspection for the certificate of occupancy, and all of the administration costs that go with it.

For the past 22 years, who has been

paying the difference? The answer would be the tax payers, whether you're a landlord who lives in town, or a regular resident who owns your own home. In 2017 alone, that difference equated to approximately \$285,000. Remember what was mentioned earlier: of the 1,000 registered rental properties in Pennsauken, 700 of those are owned by people or investors that live outside of Pennsauken and don't pay taxes here. So in essence, the Pennsauken taxpayer has been covering the cost for 700 landlords to have an investment property in Pennsauken, as well as the cost of the 300 remaining units. In addition, for the 300 landlords that do live in Pennsauken and reside here, they have not only been covering their own cost differential but also the cost of the other 700 landlords.

In 2018 alone, there were 283 properties that did not re-register on their anniversary dates. That means that Pennsauken did not collect approximately \$21,000 in registration fees; more importantly, there were 283 properties that went without a safety inspection for 2018. To encourage our rental property owners to have the

rental property process completed every year on their anniversary date, the Township is enforcing the ordinance already on the books that charges a \$500 fine for not registering on the anniversary date and a 10 percent penalty for every 30 days that a property remains non-compliant to the registration process. Rental properties must be inspected annually for the safety and health of the tenant and the neighborhood.

We then looked at the inspection process for the rental properties. We found that only 25 percent of rental properties pass their first inspection. That means that we now have to send an inspector out for a third, fourth, or fifth time to ensure that a property is safe and up to code. The cost of those extra inspections is not covered in the initial registration cost. In an effort to encourage landlords to utilize the Notice of Violations list that they are given during the initial rental inspection, for each additional time an inspector has to go back out to a property for a certificate of occupancy inspection, there will be a \$500

continued on page 35



Pennsauken Sewerage Authority

1250 John Tipton Blvd., Pennsauken, NJ 08110

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look for (slow drainage or a periodic back up). If you experience these problems, consider calling a plumber to check for tree roots. The plumber can remove the roots from your line. And, if you sus-

pect the problem is in the main line, please call the Pennsauken Sewerage Authority at (856) 662-0686, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



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The connection of sump pumps and down spouts to the sanitary sewer system is prohibited. During periods of heavy rain, these connections often overwhelm the main lines. This could result in a sewage back up into your own home or the home of your neighbor. If you need additional information about these types of connections, or suspect you or a neighbor, may have an improper connection and want information about having it removed, please call our office at (856) 663-5542.



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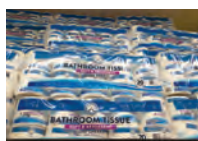
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MPWC WATERLINES

Water Distribution – Planned Service Enhancements for 2019

By Richard Spafford, P.E., Director of Engineering, MPWC

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission (MPWC) continues to replace its underground infrastructure in 2019. With the passage of the Water Quality Accountability Act, our infrastructure replacement plan is in full swing. We will be replacing water mains in areas where pipes need to be addressed.

Zimmerman Ave. in Pennsauken currently is served by a 4"

water main. Although 4" water mains were common many years ago, most today are typically 6" and above to allow for better customer service. The MPWC construction team will complete the installation of a new, 6" polyethylene-encased, ductile iron main next to the current 4" cast iron water main. Once the new main is installed, pressurized, and sterilized, the existing customer services will be transferred over to the new main. The 4" main will then be

abandoned in place and the street will be repaired to Pennsauken Township standards.

By replacing water mains as they reach the end of their useful life, we can continue to supply the highest quality water at the lowest possible cost. If the mains are not replaced, they will continue to degrade to the point that they would no longer be usable and both cost and quality would suffer.

Once complete with the Zimmerman Ave. project, our in house

team will move on to replace the water main on Cove Rd. from River Rd., to the end of the main by the Delaware River. This main has been identified as having a reducing flow capacity and has been labeled for replacement.

The 4" cast iron main located on River Rd. from the Betsy Ross Bridge to Union Ave. will be replaced with a new 8" ductile iron main. This main also extends up Union Ave. from River to Shepard. By increasing the size of

main from 4" to 8", the water flow capacity will be increased to the entire area. This main replacement project has gone out for public bid and will be awarded to the lowest, responsible bidder at our next Commission meeting.

The MPWC believes that if we stay proactive, we will deliver the best quality, best tasting water at the lowest possible price. We continue to be proud of this local water utility that serves all of our families.

Have you received a direct mail piece for service line protection?

The MPWC has recognized HomeServe as a credible organization and as such supports their efforts to market a *voluntary* service line protection program to its customers. In lieu of any monetary gain, the MPWC insisted that the lowest possible monthly rate be offered to their customers. For more information, visit us on the web at www.mpwc.com.

ATTENTION CUSTOMERS: Don't Forget to "Like" Us on Facebook!



Looking for information about the water you drink... Where does it come from? How does it get to my home? Do you want to learn more about the MPWC's ongoing infrastructure projects? Confused about how to read your water meter or calculate your bill? We've been working hard to keep our Facebook page populated with answers to our customer's most common questions. To learn more about your water service provider, just visit us on the web at www.mpwc.com and from there, click the "like us on Facebook" button.

Keep Informed With Reverse 9-1-1

In the last few months, the MPWC handled a variety of weather-related water main breaks. For members of the community directly affected, we provide messages via our Reverse 9-

1-1 notification system. To stay informed of all water emergencies that may occur within our service area, visit MPWC.com/swift911 to sign up for Reverse 9-1-1!

The MPWC Accepts Phone Payments

If you'd like to make a payment by phone, you can dial direct to our automated system at 1 (844) 611-4016. Please have your account number and PIN available when you call. Your account number and PIN numbers can be found on your water bill. Please be aware that turnoff charges or other account adjustments will not be reflected in the online or phone payment systems until the next business day. There is a convenience fee associated with all phone and online payments; this fee is not charged by the MPWC, but by the third party processor. Convenience fees are charged as follows: credit/debit card payments are subject to a convenience fee of 2.95 percent; payments made by e-check are subject to a convenience fee of \$1.05.

PAY YOUR BILL ONLINE

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission Now Accepts Online Payments!

Log onto our website at www.mpwc.com and select the "Pay Your Bill" button right from our homepage.

The Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Commission meets on the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m.

These meetings are open to the public and are held at 6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken.

Questions about your service?

Call 663-0043 Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., emergencies – call 663-0044 anytime.

MERCHANTVILLE – PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION
6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110, 856-663-0043 www.mpwc.com

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President ■ Mr. George Piperno, Vice President

Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer ■ Mr. Ronald Johnson, Secretary

Mr. Edward Brennan, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Pennsauken Residents To Save On Their Electric Bills continued from page 1

their lowest rates in an online auction held by Pennsauken on March 26, 2019. The winning bid came from Constellation NewEnergy, Inc., an Exelon company and a leading competitive energy company providing power, natural gas, renewable energy, and energy management products and services for homes and businesses across the continental United States.

Public meetings about Pennsauken's GEA program will be held on Thursday, May 9, at 4:00 p.m. and again at 6:30 p.m., in the second floor meeting room of the Township's municipal building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. These meetings will provide additional information and answer residents' questions about the program. For those unable to attend, a special information session will be broadcast via a Facebook Live video on Monday, May 15, at noon, via the town's Facebook page, Facebook.com/PennsaukenTwp. Residents who log in will be able to have their questions answered in real time. In addition, the video will be rebroadcast on Channel 19 Pennsauken Television.

"While our town has gone through this process before, both the Township and Concord Energy Services will do our best to inform residents about the benefits of the energy aggregation program and answer their questions," says

Mayor Killion. "Be sure to check your mailbox for a mailer that will explain the program in detail."

Created by the N.J. Board of Public Utilities and the Rate Counsel (formerly known as the Ratepayer Advocate), GEA is designed to help people take advantage of energy deregulation and cut energy costs. "Aggregation" refers to customers who form a group to purchase energy.

There is no cost for this program to the municipality, residents, or taxpayers. Pennsauken's 16-month GEA program will run from July 2019 to November 2020. Other towns across the state are running similar GEA programs.

PSE&G will continue to deliver residents' power, handle customer accounts, respond to outages, and maintain service. The only changes are the energy supplier (the company that provides the energy), the lower energy rate, and the supplier information on participating residents' utility bills.

Residents who are on a budget bill program through PSE&G and wish to participate in the energy aggregation program will be automatically enrolled in a budget bill plan through Constellation NewEnergy, Inc. Their budget bill will be split into two parts. The supply portion will be paid to Constellation,

while the delivery portion will go to PSE&G. Both will be listed on your PSE&G bill and you will continue to only pay PSE&G for both. You will not need to issue separate payments.

Those households that are already enrolled with a third party energy supplier are not eligible to participate in the program. Residents that have solar panels on their home are not initially included in the program, but, may opt in at any time at their discretion.

Residents will receive information packets by mail, explaining the program in detail, by early May. Any eligible resident who does not wish to participate in the rate-reducing program may opt out from May 1-30 (before the change occurs), or at any time thereafter, without any fee or penalty. To opt out, residents can complete and mail back a response card they will receive in the mail; call (877) 292-3904; or visit NJaggregation.us/ptwp.

The new energy rate is fixed for 16 months, with no early cancellation fees, penalties, or fine print. This means that the rate is not a variable rate, unlike some other third-party contracts that are being offered. At the end of this 16-month period, another auction could be held.

All residents who have not already switched to a different (third-party)

continued on page 27

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PENNSAUKEN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Patrons of the Pennsauken Free Public Library will be able to enjoy some great events in the coming weeks!

Paint Night On May 10

Join us for an evening of art and fun! Our paint night will be on Friday, May 10, 6:00 to 8:30 p.m., in the Community Room. People of any skill level will be able to recreate a beautiful painting by following guided, step-by-step instructions. This event is for adults and older teens. Registration is required and there is a \$5 registration fee.

Afternoon Tea On May 19

Patrons will enjoy afternoon tea at the Library on Sunday, May 19, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Featuring a presentation on tea etiquette, a delicious menu of teas, savory

Paint Night, Afternoon Tea, And More At The Library

sandwiches, and exquisite sweets! Registration is required and there is a \$5 registration fee.

2019 Summer Reading And Special Programs

Join us this summer for our 2019 Summer Reading Program: A UNIVERSE OF STORIES! Our theme is outer space and we will be having a "blast" with all of our fun programming!

There will be an extraterrestrial visit, cosmic crafts, solar science, animal shows, Disney characters, galactic flicks, fly-in movies, doll tea parties, space storytimes, and animals galore! We will also have visits from the Franklin Institute, Cedar Run Wildlife Refuge, island dancers, the Discovery Museum, Mlanjeni, and a special visit to the Edelman Planetarium! In addition, students can log their summer reading minutes and fun prizes will be

available!

New this summer: MAKER CAMP! There will be maker fun for kids of all ages and plenty of teen volunteer opportunities!

Don't forget, Summer Reading is not just for kids; adult patrons will be able to log reading minutes for prizes this summer!

For more great events at the Pennsauken Free Public Library, don't forget to check out our calendar on this page. We hope to see you soon!

PENNSAUKEN LIBRARY

856-665-5959
www.pennsaukenlibrary.org

HOURS:

Monday - Thursday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.
Friday & Saturday: 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Sunday: 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

The Library will be closed on
Monday, May 27, for Memorial Day.

May Library Events

- Yoga – Tuesdays, May 7, 14, 21, & 28; 6:30 p.m. Held every Tuesday in May in the Library's Community Room. Bring your own mat, dress comfortably, and get ready to stretch!
- Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library Meeting – Wednesday, May 8; 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Join the Friends for their monthly planning meeting.
- Introduction to Computers - Microsoft Windows – Wednesdays, May 8, 15, & 22; 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. The continuation of the six-week basic overview of computers. Lessons will provide instruction on PC terminology, navigation, components, computer maintenance, security and more. We highly recommend

patrons bring in their own laptop to class, if possible.

- Microsoft Excel & Word – Thursdays, May 9, 16, & 23; 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. The continuation of the six-week class providing everything you need to know to start creating documents and spreadsheets using Microsoft Excel and Word. We highly recommend patrons bring in their own laptop to class, if possible.
- Mother's Day Bake Sale – Saturday, May 11; 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. A variety of baked goods will be on sale in the Library lobby while supplies last. Show your Friends of the Library membership card to receive a free item!
- Wine/Cheese Tasting Event and Silent

Art Auction – Sunday, May 19; 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. Held at Inglesby & Sons Funeral Home. See page 5 for more details.

- Library Board Meeting – Monday, May 20; 6:00 p.m. Each month, board members meet to review current issues, budget, policies, and staffing. The community is encouraged to attend.
- Munch and a Movie – Tuesday, May 21; 12:30 p.m. Bring a bag lunch and enjoy a FREE movie and snack, courtesy of The Friends of the Library. For this month's movie selection, please call (856) 665-5959.

Woman's Club Book Exchange Held May 11 And 12

The Merchantville Woman's Club Evening Membership Department will be hosting a Community Book Exchange on Saturday, May 11, from 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., as well as on Sunday, May 12, 1:00 - 4:30 p.m., at the Pennsauken Free Public Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. Clean out those attics and bookshelves, and bring any books you have outgrown or grown tired of. Please do not bring text books, user manuals, magazines, or books in very poor condition.

If you wish to donate books, they can be dropped off at the Library or between 10:00 a.m. and noon on the 11th. Arrangements can be made to drop off

books at another time by contacting Jan at janwh@aol.com or (609) 410-4650.

Everyone is welcome to come in and take a book or a bagful! If you have any questions, please contact Arlene Minkiewicz at Arlene.Minkiewicz@PRICESystems.com.

Bus Trip To Mackinac Island

The Woman's Club of Merchantville is sponsoring a bus trip to Mackinac Island, Mich. from Sunday, Sept. 8, through Saturday, Sept. 14. This seven day, six night trip includes a stop at the Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio; as well as Frankenmuth, Mich., a Bavarian-like village, where attendees will enjoy a Ger-

man, family-style dinner party. And at the Ford Museum, guests will see the cars of the rich and famous.

Upon arrival at Mackinac Island, travelers will have lunch at the Grand Hotel, a carriage ride with a guide, and time for shopping. While there, guests have a choice of staying at the Grand Hotel or another Island hotel.

Prices vary from \$1,057 to \$2,144 per person, depending on the number of people in a room and the hotel on Mackinac Island. Money raised from this trip is used towards the Woman's Club's charitable donations.

Contact Jean Davis at (856) 663-4843 for more information.

FRIENDS of the LIBRARY

By Arlene Miller, Friends of the
Pennsauken Free Public Library

There's still time to visit the annual art show exhibits, now on display in the Library's Community Room through Sunday, May 5, to see some of the amazing talent from Pennsauken and Merchantville artists. And who knows? Maybe you'll find a painting or sculpture or photograph that "speaks" to you and an artist willing to part with it so you can make it your own. If so, be sure to attend the "Meet the Artist" reception on Sunday, May 5, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., to chat with the artist, enjoy some light refreshments, and see everything one last time until next year's show.

Mother's Day is always a good reason to shower mom – or yourself – with something sweet. So what better time for us to hold a bake sale than the day before Mother's Day, Saturday, May 11? Does mom like cake? Cookies? Cupcakes? Brownies? We'll have them all on sale in the Library's lobby from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. or until we run out. Best

get there early for the biggest selection. While you're picking out something up for mom, be sure to remember yourself as well. And if you belong to the Friends, show your membership card and receive a selected item free as our thanks for supporting us.

May is National Physical Fitness and Sports Month, so if you're into yoga, count on a good workout on every Tuesday in May, 6:30 p.m., in the Library's Community Room. Bring your own mat, dress comfortably, and get ready to stretch.

We'll get together again in the Community Room on Tuesday, May 21, for another Munch and a Movie, compliments of the Friends. Bring your friends along from noon – 3:30 p.m. and enjoy a nice lunch, snacks, beverages, and a first-class flick.

Finally, we're excited to host our first-ever special fundraiser! A wine tasting and silent art auction will be held on Sunday, May 19, at Inglesby & Sons Funeral Home, benefitting the Library's

popular Museum Pass Program. This adults-only, indoor/outdoor event takes place on the historic estate and beautifully landscaped grounds at 2426 N. Cove Rd. from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. The \$20 per person tickets entitles participants to a tasting of five different wines from New Jersey vineyards; assorted cheeses and other light refreshments; as well as a carefully-vetted art show of paintings, drawings, photographs, mixed media, etc. from local artists, many of whom will be on site. All artwork will be for sale through a silent art auction, with a portion of the sale price contributed to the Friends of the Pennsauken Free Public Library. For those who'd prefer more than just a tasting, additional wine can be purchased at \$5.00 per glass, and a lucky few door prize winners will get to take home a bottle!

You'll be able to purchase tickets in advance by sending a check or money order for \$20 per person to the Friends of the Pennsauken Free Library, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken, N.J. 08110;

or on the day of the event, when credit cards will be accepted for payment of both tickets and artwork.

The Museum Pass Program is one of our most popular and permits Pennsauken Library card holders and their families to visit 16 different area attractions, including the USS New Jersey, Academy of Natural Sciences, Independent Seaport Museum, Grounds for

Sculpture, and many more, free of charge. Your attendance at this exciting fundraising event will help us not only continue the program but also add new sites to expand on the amazing cultural arts in our area.

Our next Friends of the Library business meeting takes place on Wednesday, May 8, 7:00 p.m., in the Library's Community Room. Please join us.

Art Shows, Bake Sales, And More This May, Courtesy Of The Friends Of The Library

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GOINGGREEN Building A Rain Garden

By Kathleen Harvey,
AAP Columnist

There is an old saying: "April showers bring May flowers." We've had a wet spring, which has brought a bounty of beautiful, fragrant flowers in many colors, sizes, and shapes. But what if there is a low spot on your property, one that turns into a large puddle every time it rains? One way to solve the problem is by building a rain garden, a space filled with flowers and shrubs that benefit from periodic flooding.

A rain garden receives water from impervious surfaces such as rooftops, downspouts, sidewalks, driveways, and patios. Water is absorbed into the soil through the network of deep plant roots. The shallow depression of the rain garden holds water so it can slowly infiltrate back into the soil as the plants naturally remove pollutants from the runoff. A rain garden should be designed so that

water drains the space within 24 hours.

The first step in designing a rain garden is to define a low spot in the yard. Position your rain garden at least 10 feet from your home. If your rain garden is too close to the house, it may erode the home's foundation or seep water into the basement over time. Plot your garden's size using stakes and string. Next, construct paths to channel runoff from the gutters and higher parts of the yard to the rain garden.

Use a mix of plants adapted to different water depths, along with desired design features. When deciding which plants should be placed where, think of it as a large container garden, with thrillers, fillers, and spillers. Thrillers are a tree or large shrub that creates the focal point of the space. Fillers are shorter, clumping perennials that surround the focal planting. Spillers are plants that line the outer rim and won't

be badly damaged by sloppy lawn mowing or weed whackers.

Plants for each rain garden will vary depending on how much water the garden will hold, the amount of sun exposure in each day, and the soil conditions. Start planting in the deepest part of the rain garden, whether it's in the middle, or on a property line where your neighbor's soil level is higher than yours. This area will hold the most water for the most amount of time. Examples of plants that are tolerant of inundated, (i.e. flooded) conditions that can tolerate standing water for a period of time, and are good for the tall focal point include: elderberry (*Sambucus canadensis*), which is great for jams, jellies, and wine; ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*); viburnum; silky dogwood (*Cornus amomum*), whose stems turn brilliant red in the winter for winter interest; spicebush (*Lindera benzoin*); swamp azalea (*Rhododendron viscosum*); and winterberry (*Ilex verticillata*).

Perennials for filler spots include blue flag iris (*Iris versicolor*); blue vervain (*Verbena hastata*); cardinal flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*); ferns; asters; swamp rose mallow (*Hibiscus moscheutos*); and swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*),

which is monarch butterfly food.

For areas that are less swampy, but get inundated during summer downpours, several shrubs are a great addition. American beautyberry (*Callicarpa americana*) gets pretty purple berries in fall. Red-osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) and sweet pepperbush (*Clethra alnifolia*) feed bees and other pollinators. Perennials that like wet feet include blue false indigo (*Baptisia australis*), blue star (*Amsonia tabernaemontana*) and mist-flower (*Eupatorium coelestinum*).

A few trees that will grow in our area and thrive on periodic flooding include the fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*), ninebark (*Physocarpus opulifolius*), red maple (*Acer rubrum*), serviceberry, and my personal favorite, paw paw (*Asimina triloba*) which produce wonderful edible fruits with a custard like flesh.

So if your property is less than completely flat with a low spot that just doesn't drain well after a thunderstorm, think about building a rain garden!

Happy Mother's Day!



Karl Chase From Habitat For Humanity To Speak At PMAC Luncheon

On Wednesday, May 8, Karl Chase from the Camden County Habitat for Humanity ReStore will be the guest speaker at the PMAC luncheon at the Pennsauken Country Club, 3800 Hadfield Rd.

Chase has 20 years of experience as a marketing executive in the hospitality industry, but has spent the past year developing donor partnerships for the ReStore in Pennsauken. Karl will talk about how the ReStore is benefitting the local business

community and how a partnership with the ReStore can yield a real bottom line benefit.

Sign-in begins at 11:30 a.m. on May 8, with the meeting starting at noon. Admission is \$25 for members, \$35 for non-members. Attendees are asked to R.S.V.P. to Nancy Ellis at (856) 438-0833 or pmacteam@gmail.com by Monday, May 6.



Chase

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Festive Music, Food Trucks, And Fireworks Return

continued from page 1

good turnout. If Mother Nature cooperates, this will be a perfect opportunity for our residents to come out and celebrate."

Several food trucks have committed to provide fare for the Summer Kickoff Bash: local favorite Mama's Homemade Meatballs, which opened up a brick-and-mortar component to their business here in town; Barkley's BBQ, offering the "best soul food in Philly;" Philly Goodfellas, selling Italian-style sandwiches and other specialties; and Kona Ice, featuring cool treats including shaved ice and ice cream. In addition, attendees ages 21 and older will be able to enjoy an onsite beer garden.

Pennsauken's first responders will also help add to the festivities. The Pennsauken Township Police Department will hold K9 demonstrations; share information about Team Pennsauken and the Police Unity Tour; and have a

dunk tank where guests can soak one of their favorite officers. Pennsauken's Fire Department will demonstrate firefighting/rescue techniques; provide important information about fire prevention; and run a "mister" to keep attendees cool. There will also be a "touch-a-truck" area, where children and adults alike can explore several emergency vehicles.

Like last year's summer kickoff, there will be great musical performances. InSession is a local band that performs classic R&B, jazz, and dance songs from the 70's to the present day. Also on stage will be the tribute band, The Best of the Eagles, a group of professional New Jersey musicians who are passionate about their love of the Eagles music and who have all worked with numerous national touring artists.

Finally, an intense fireworks display will cap off an evening filled with fun and

entertainment.

"We're excited to be able to bring our second annual Summer Kickoff Bash to Pennsauken," says Elwood Martz, Parks and Recreation Department, Pennsauken Township. "We hope that our neighbors come out for Pennsauken's new official start of summer."

Pennsauken Residents To Save On Their Electric Bills

continued from page 23

energy supplier will be automatically included. Anyone who has already chosen a third-party supplier will not be included in the program and will not receive any letters for opting out. If a resident wishes to join at a later date, they may call (866) 688-5197 or visit NJaggregation.us/ptwp to do so. This program is for residential customers only and businesses are not automatically enrolled.

For more information, please visit NJaggregation.us/ptwp.

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By Joe Scavuzzo, Director,
Department of Public Works

The week of May 19, 2019, is "National Public Works Week." Each year, the American Public Works Association (APWA) chooses a theme. This year's theme is entitled, "It Starts Here." The APWA explains that the theme "represents the facets of modern civilization that grow out of the efforts put forth by the public works professionals across North America... The bottom line is that citizen' quality of life starts with public

Celebrating National Public Works Week: "It Starts Here"

works."

Many larger-sized cities have public works departments that handle utilities like drinking water, sanitary sewer, and even electric. Here in Pennsauken, our department works in conjunction with these utilities when called upon. One of the components of the APWA's theme is that "healthy communities start with Public Works." Clean drinking water and proper sewage treatment are important, but a healthy community can also mean a clean community. We join forces with groups like the Girl Scouts, the Pennsauken Environmental Commission, and

other service-minded groups to clean up our green spaces like Tippin's Pond and the Delaware River Nature Boardwalk, located at the end of Cove Rd. The Pennsauken Boat Ramp has seen some improvements over the past year; and cameras have been installed to catch illegal dumping and reduce littering.

Beginning this summer, the Boat Ramp and Tippin's Pond parking lots will be gated closed from dusk to dawn, per Township ordinances for parks and recreational facilities. With a reduced amount of overnight vehicular access, we can limit the opportunity for littering and keep these locations looking clean!

In our fast-paced society of text messages and e-mails, we all feel rushed to complete our work and move on. It's all too easy to forget the simple gesture of a "thank you." On behalf of Superintendent Feriozzi and myself, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to "the guys... our guys." From the mechanics to our crew chiefs, as well as to our boots on the

ground, we are a department that is depended on for support from various agencies and other Township departments, constantly being pulled in multiple directions. These guys make it happen; and those that depend Pennsauken's Department of Public Works are appreciative. I hear it all the time. While I firmly believe in the quality of our services, there is always that chance that we drop the ball on a task. At those times, a simple phone call to our office at (856) 663-0178 will address any issue. With the help of you, our fellow Pennsauken neighbors, we constantly seek to improve our methods and ultimately, our service to our town.

As I sit and write this article in the second week of April, our crews are taking

advantage of the dry spring weather to restore our athletic fields, various parks and playgrounds; clearing basins before the overgrowth of summer begins; and removing hazardous park trees and patching roads. It's a time when we attempt to cover as much ground as possible.

The final "thank you" goes out to our residents and business owners for the opportunity to serve you. It is our mission to provide these services, week after week, maintaining a high quality of services by the work we do.

Keep a look-out for the 2019 food truck event. Our department looks to be on hand for a "touch-a-truck" event, where everyone both big and small can hop in all of our different pieces of equipment!

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TALKIN' TRASH

MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 27, IS A TRASH HOLIDAY.

Monday's trash and recycling collection will occur on Tuesday, May 28. Tuesday's collection will occur on Wednesday, May 29. Wednesday's yard waste and white goods collection will be on Thursday, May 30. Thursday's trash and recycling will be picked up on Friday, May 31. Friday's collection will occur on Saturday, June 1, beginning at 6:00 a.m.

Camden County is hosting a household hazardous waste collection event on Saturday, May 18, 8:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., in Atco, N.J. at the Parking Area at Atco and Raritan avenues. For a list of what individuals can and cannot bring, visit www.camdencounty.com/event/free-household-hazardous-waste-collection/what-to-bring/.

The County is also holding a free paper shredding event for Camden County residents on Saturday, June 1, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Camden County College in Gloucester Township, in the parking lot off of Peter Cheeseman Rd. No businesses are accepted. Shredding is held rain or shine.

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Pennsauken's Municipal Tax Portion Remains Flat For Seven Years In A Row continued from page 1

tax bill has remained the same," says Pennsauken Mayor Jack Killion. "The entire Township Committee, working closely with our administrator and municipal staff, makes it a point to be very respectful of our residents' hard-earned money. It's our ongoing commitment to our community. The taxpayers of Pennsauken deserve nothing less."

Pennsauken Township faces significant challenges every year to balance the municipal budget. But it's more than just holding the line. In fact, the Township is experiencing the largest increase in expenditures without increasing municipal taxes. Pennsauken Township has hired six new police officers, two new firefighters, and two additional public works staff. The town's administration has also made sure that each department has received the necessary funding they need for the year. There are also several capital improvements planned for 2019, including

the purchasing of six new police cars, two new fire department vehicles, and an ambulance for Pennsauken's EMS. In addition, the Township is in the initial phase or renovating a 12,000 sq. ft. public works facility; are installing new pumps at the municipal pool; making essential repairs to the roof at the Pennsauken Country Club; and renovating the Pennsauken Fire Department's Station 5.

Pennsauken is also making a \$500,000 commitment to improve and repair its infrastructure; there are 102 miles of road that the Township is responsible for maintaining and they continue to replace damaged curbing and improve storm drainage. Pennsauken's 30 parks and playgrounds are also upgraded on a continual basis.

Several factors helped the Township maintain the level of local taxes. For the sixth straight year, Pennsauken had a tax collection rate in excess of 97 percent,

coming in at an all-time of 97.4 percent in 2018.

"Our tax collection rate plays a big role in how we keep the municipal portion of property taxes down," explains Killion. "Our tax office, run by Danny O'Brien, Pat Huerta, and Kathie Kilroy, do a great job. We also can't give enough credit to Ron Crane, our chief financial officer, and John Dymond, our assessor, who play very important roles in this process."

The Township's Economic Development Department has again secured additional businesses to move into Pennsauken. New businesses coming into town help to increase tax rates, which offset increasing municipal costs. Another important factor is the fees and permits collected through the town's highly-successful Abandoned and Vacant Property Initiative.

"Terry Carr and Larry Cardwell, our Economic Development team, do an

amazing job to foster business growth in our community," says Killion. "And every home that stops being vacant and has a family move in is a real boost to our tax base."

In addition, the Pennsauken Country Club once again generated above the amount needed to cover operation costs and course maintenance. This entire amount goes directly towards property tax relief.

The services that Pennsauken Township provides its residents and businesses

would not be possible without local property taxes. These taxes make up the largest revenue source in the municipal budget.

"Every year, our goal is to create a balanced municipal budget that maintains our services while being completely fair to our taxpayers," explains Killion. "For seven years straight, we've worked on not increasing municipal taxes and we've succeeded. We're extremely proud of that accomplishment and will continue to do what we can to serve our constituents responsibly."

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Auditions Held For “Disney’s Frozen Junior” May 14-15

Auditions for the Pennsauken Youth Action Committee’s performance of “Disney’s Frozen Jr.” will be held on Tuesday, May 14, and Wednesday, May 15, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Howard M. Phifer Middle School, 8201 Park Ave., Pennsauken. Adapted for children ages 7 to 14, “Disney’s Frozen Jr.” is based on the popular 2018 Broadway musical and brings the memorable characters and songs from the highly popular animated film onstage.

A story of true love and acceptance between sisters, “Frozen Jr.” expands upon the emotional relationship and journey between Princesses Anna and



Elsa. When faced with danger, the two discover their hidden potential and the powerful bond of sisterhood.

Participants need to contact Pennsauken’s Department of Parks and Recreation to schedule an audition time in advance. Individuals auditioning should come prepared to sing, do some basic movement, and read lines. Please choose a song to show your singing ability.

Rehearsals and performances will be at the Pennsauken Intermediate School in the air-conditioned auditorium/music room. Rehearsals will begin June 25 and four performances will be scheduled for July 26-28.

To sign up for a time slot, or for more information, e-mail Elwood “Duke” Martz at emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us or call (856) 665-1000 x151. There will be a \$50 audition/performance fee collected at the time of audition.

Cooper Celebrates Volunteers, Honors “Volunteer of Year”

In observance of National Volunteer Month, Cooper University Health Care recognized the hundreds of dedicated men and women who donate their time and efforts to support the hospital’s mission, to serve, to heal, to educate.

A thank-you luncheon was held on April 9 to honor 715 volunteers that contributed a total of 56,832 hours of service in 2018. Cooper volunteers are present throughout the organization – helping on nursing units, visiting patients, and performing a variety of tasks in the business departments.

Harold Monroe, of Pennsauken, was named Volunteer of the Year at the luncheon. Harold was a Cooper employee for 46 years, retiring in 2004. He returned to Cooper in 2006 as a volun-



Pennsauken resident Harold Monroe was named Cooper’s Volunteer of the Year.

teer. To date, he has volunteered for more than 2,750 hours.

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Humanely Addressing “Community Cats” In Pennsauken

By Nancy Welsh, Pennsauken Township Animal Control Officer

Spring has sprung and soon many kittens will be born. Have you ever heard the term “kitten season?” Kitten season begins in early April and runs through September and even into October, if the weather is mild. If you have adult cats you are feeding, or cats that are hanging around your property, that number may soon increase. Simply trapping and removing the cats does not work. It creates a vacuum effect which allows more cats to come into the neighborhood. Feral/

stray cats also have a new title, which is “community cats.”

Trap-Neuter-Return, or “TNR,” is a humane approach to addressing community cat populations and it works. TNR improves the lives of the cats, addresses community concerns, reduces complaints about cats, and stops the breeding cycle. TNR improves the existence between outdoor cats and humans in our shared environment. Many towns and cities across the country have adopted a TNR program. Scientific studies and communities with TNR pro-

grams are proof that TNR reduces and stabilizes populations of community cats. During an 11-year study at the University of Florida, the number of cats on campus declined by 66 percent after implementing TNR with no kittens being

born after the first four years.

So, whether you enjoy the local community cats and are currently feeding and caring for some, or you do not like the cats on your property, please join a group of residents who are interested in

making a difference in the lives of our local community cats.

For more information about our efforts to humanely address feral/stray cats in our community, please e-mail almosthomeshester@comcast.net.

“Colonial Earth Day” Held At Burrough-Dover House On May 5

By Robert Fisher-Hughes, AAP Columnist and Amateur Historian

The pre-industrial world had a different relationship with nature; this was especially true in colonial America. In those crucial days of early settlement, without a worldwide web or electronic communications of any kind, without internal combustion or even steam engines, one's environment was the farmyard and the wider world was a rumor. Adapting natural resources, reusing and recycling were as natural as the raising of crops and hunting of game.

Burrough-Dover House, located off Haddonfield Rd., with its several acres of cleared and wooded ground and its trail down to the south branch of Pennsauken Creek and its wetlands, will host our annual Colonial Earth Day

event on Sunday, May 5, from noon to 4:00 p.m., with the live educational animals from Freedom Center for Wildlife; crafts and activities for the whole family using natural materials; colonial and native lifestyle lessons with open-fire cookery; and the beauty of rustic nature on the spring-bedecked grounds surrounding the historic English Quaker home built of natural sandstone.

Historic Griffith Morgan House, located off of River Rd., will also be open for this “First Sunday” in May, with free tours and historical hospitality from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.; so both our historic houses of Pennsauken offer lots of opportunity for fun on a fine spring day on Sunday, May 5.

Admission is free and there is plenty of free parking too! Memberships and

volunteer opportunities are available and donations are always welcome to help the Pennsauken Historical Society sustain its own mission in our community.

Burrough-Dover House is located at 9201 Burrough-Dover Lane, off Haddonfield Rd. near the Wyndam Rd. traffic light. Griffith Morgan House is located at 243 Griffith Morgan Lane, off River Rd. between Delair and Route 73.

Visit the Griffith Morgan House or Pennsauken Historical Society pages, or the group, “Pennsauken History Forum,” on Facebook for more details and directions, or e-mail to pennsaukenhistorical-society@gmail.com.

Both Burrough-Dover House and Griffith Morgan House are also open for tours and research by appointment.

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FOODADVENTURES

By Rachael Shugars, AAP Columnist

This month I'm going to get a little "sciencey" with my readers. I was recently introduced to something called PTC paper by a science teacher friend of mine. I had never heard of this stuff and was completely intrigued.

A phenylthiocarbamide (PTC) paper

Are You A Supertaster? The Science Of Tasting

strip either tastes very bitter or is virtually tasteless, depending on the genetic makeup of the taster. The ability to taste the strip is often treated as a dominant genetic trait. Food choices are related to a person's ability to taste PTC.

Basically, PTC is used to help find non-tasters, moderate tasters, regular

tasters and supertasters. About 75 percent of the population registers as some form of taster, while only 25 percent will end up tasting nothing when trying the strip. This is how I discovered that my mother and I were supertasters, someone with twice as many tastebuds than the average person, experiencing the

sense of taste with far greater intensity with an increased sensitivity to bitter tastes, almost to the point of aversion.

Even as a supertaster, I find that I actually enjoy bitter flavors and tend to prefer them over something perhaps sweet or sour. A lot of foods from the brassica genus, such as broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, kale, brussels sprouts, etc. tend to be a more intense flavor for PTC sensitive people.

On the opposite side of the spectrum, non-tasters aren't actually people who can't taste anything. They may just prefer spicy or salty food that supertasters might find bland. It all comes down to personal preference. You can also look

at your own food and drink choices to see how your taste preferences compare.

You can find PTC paper online so you can give it a try yourself and see where you land on the tasters' spectrum. A pack of papers on Amazon will set you back about \$5. It's also perfectly safe to try and can be a super fun science experiment to try with your kids. My own three year old has tried PTC paper out and is a moderate taster. I encourage you to explore this "science" side of food and flavor and always Enjoy your Food Adventures.

Be sure to head to my Facebook page, "All Around Pennsauken Food Adventures" and share some of your local dining experiences!

Pancake Breakfast A Big Success, Busy Month Ahead



Last month's 25th annual Lions pancake breakfast was a big success. Macaro's catering room was filled to capacity, continuously, through the four-hour, all you can eat event.

The money raised from this event helps the Lions provide scholarships to the Pennsauken High School, Phifer Middle School, and local parochial schools' eighth grade classes, as well as supports our recent vision campaign to buy an eye screening camera so the Lions can do screenings year round. The money also will be used to support the Pennsauken Police Youth Initiative; more on that next month!

The Pennsauken Lions Club would like to thank the following businesses and individuals for their generous donations of food or gift products towards their annual pancake breakfast: Al Arcani and Deluxe Bakery; Herr's Chips; Macaro's Deli and Catering; Mama's Homemade Cookies; Mama's Meatballs and More; the McDonald's at Rt. 73; Mr. Softee of Pennsauken; Pennsauken Sweet Shop; Penn Queen Diner; Philadelphia Eagles; ShopRite of Cinnaminson; Steak 38 Café; Tastykake; Thurman Meats; Valenzano Winery; Wawa; Wegmans Food Market; Lisa Eckel; and the Mateo family.

May Lions Activities

May is a busy month for the Pennsauken Lions Club. On Monday, May 6, the Lions will be holding its spring Cigar Night at Steak 38 Café, 515 Rt. 38 in Cherry Hill. Starting time is 6:30 p.m.; the cost is \$65 per person and includes appetizers, dinner, dessert and two premium cigars. There also will be a cash bar. Space is limited, so reservations are recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, call Steak 38 at (856) 662-3838 or Macaro's at (856) 665-5286.

On Monday, May 20, the Lions will be holding its annual "Meet 'n Greet" dinner at the home of member Sharon Rush, owner of Macaro's Deli. Pennsauken Lions Club members will be on

hand to answer any questions you might have and give you a chance to meet them in a more informal setting, while enjoying a delicious dinner prepared by Sharon. If you are interested in attending, contact Sharon at Macaro's by calling (856) 665-5286.

Club representatives will also be attending the New Jersey Lions (MD-16) 98th State Convention held later this month in Atlantic City.

The Pennsauken Lions Club meets

the first and third Mondays of the month at Macaro's Deli and Catering, 6225 Westfield Ave. Appetizers and cocktails are at 6:00 p.m.; dinner is served at 6:30 p.m.; and a meeting immediately follows. The Lions Club's membership is up 48.4 percent from last year! If you would be interested in joining this enthusiastic service organization, contact pennsauken lionsclub@comcast.net or call (856) 313-7751.

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HEALTHYLIFESTYLES

By Suzette Price, RN, ASN, IKCN,
Pennsauken Township Board of Health

Memorial Day is right around the corner. You know what that means... pool season! Who likes dieting or depriving themselves of foods they like? Not me, so here are some helpful things I do to try and live a more healthy lifestyle.

It's been said breakfast is the most important meal of the day so I don't miss it. Make sure you get in some protein like eggs with your breakfast. Eat more fiber, such as fruit, grains, legumes, and veggies. In fact, try to eat at least four servings of vegetables a day and make 50 percent of your meals vegetables.

Try decreasing or eliminating tempt-

Making Better Choices In The Kitchen For A Healthier You

ing foods, like salty potato chips and candy bars, as well as sweetened beverages, like juice and soda.

Changing behavior at the kitchen table is also important. Try to chew your food completely before you swallow. Chew your food at least 50 times and make sure your mouth is empty before taking another bite of food. Also, be sure to wait at least two to four hours before your next meal, with no picking or snacking.

Prepping your meals for the week is an important key to success. This will help prevent you from snacking and choosing poor quality foods to eat because you're too tired to cook.

Lastly it's not just about eating better.

Be sure to move your body. Take a walk, dance, ride a bike, lift some weights. Get your heart rate up for 30 minutes. Do

anything you will enjoy that will have you moving.

Taking these tips to heart will help you

get on the path to a healthier you, just in time for the unofficial start of summer!

Pennsauken Farmer And Food Market Opens May 21

By Frank Sinatra, AAP Editor

Preparations are underway for the start of the brand new Pennsauken Farmer and Food Market. Held on the first and third Tuesdays of the month, the Farmer and Food Market will offer a retail marketplace where attendees can shop a variety of produce, crafts, and more.

"We're excited for the launch of the Pennsauken Farmer and Food Market," says Elwood Martz, director, Pennsauken Township Parks and Recreation

Department. "During the next few months, residents and visitors to our Township will be able to purchase a variety of fresh food items and other unique product offerings in an open market setting. It's a great way to highlight local businesses and bring our community together."

A special kick-off market will be held on Tuesday, May 21, from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m., at the Township Municipal Complex, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd. In addition

to some special activities, the Pennsauken Alliance Against Substance Abuse (PASA) will be promoting the "Food for Recovery" program, which provides access to preventative services and behavioral health resources.

For more information, visit "Pennsauken Farmer & Food Market" on Facebook.



Volunteer Firefighters Needed In Pennsauken

Experienced and non-experienced volunteers are encouraged to apply to become a member of the Pennsauken Fire Department. Open to residents and non-residents that are interested in the public service. Uniforms, training, meals, fraternity and many other benefits are provided to members in our Volunteer Staffed Company program. The department also has a firefighter explorer program which is affiliated with the Boy Scouts of America.

For more information, visit www.twp.pennsauken.nj.us/firedept/become-member.

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A Look At The Changes To Pennsauken's Rental Property Fees

continued from page 19

fee. Avoiding that fee is easy; just complete any corrections from the violations list before you call for an inspection. That way, the inspector is only coming to the property for one re-inspection that results in giving landlords a certificate of occupancy. If you find that you are in need of an extension to get your list completed, give us a call and we will be happy to work with you on a new compliance date.

The next big part that we studied was the number of resident complaints received regarding the conditions of rental properties. For the 2017–2018 registration year, we received 500 complaints regarding rental properties; that's 50 percent of all rentals. Those complaints constituted 1,479 inspections before they were all resolved. When a complaint comes through, someone takes the call; the Township sends an inspector out to look at the issue; the inspector comes back and writes up the violation; and someone sends a copy of the violation by either certified or regular mail. When the compliance date arrives, we send the inspector back out to ensure that the problem is resolved. Now, of course, the inspectors try to be helpful, so if the owner is working on the violations and just needs more time, then we try to help out as long as it is not a safety hazard to the property or the neighborhood. However, if it is not resolved, a second violation notice is sent out. If the

problem is still not resolved after that, we send a court summons. The court process involves the town's attorney, the construction official, the Township's rental coordinator and the supervisor for inspectors. As you can imagine, this can get very costly. However, neither the court costs, nor the cost of resolving the complaints are included in the registration fee.

If we were to maintain the original fee structure of \$75 per rental registration, that would mean that the taxpayers of Pennsauken would continue to fund the rental property program as it is described above. Registrations, complaints, and court appearances for \$75. Remember, 700 of the 1,000 properties in town are owned by individuals or groups that do not reside in Pennsauken. So Pennsauken residents would be paying for the whole program.

We have had the opportunity to meet with many of our great landlords. Some of those that live in town and some that do not. After taking them through the "why" we raised the registration fee, they all understood and complied. It simply comes down to the cost of running the program and who should be responsible for covering those costs: the taxpaying resident that does not own a rental property in town? Or the landlord that may or may not live in town but is getting the benefit of their investment property?

We truly appreciate all of the great individuals and investors that have chosen to invest in our town and we have many;

but it is our main responsibility to ensure that our residents are being treated fairly and equitably. It's our responsibility, when posed with a problem, to dig as deep as we can and come up with a solution that is exactly that, fair and equitable. We understand that this change constituted a steep increase in the registration fee and we apologize for this review taking 22 years. However, after doing the research and realizing where the funding was really coming from, we could not in good conscience let the \$75 fee stand.

A very important person reminded me that it's always good to reflect back on the things we've done in the past to measure whether they are worth repeating for the future. Understanding where we've been and whether it worked only helps to ensure that our next steps forward are taking us in the right direction. I believe they are; and as I look back at what's occurred, I would sum it up by saying, with a few adjustments, it will work and is all worth the time and effort we put in. There were and will be bumps in the road, but all in all, as the big picture goes, it's worth it.

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Polling Locations For June 4 Primary Election

By Gene Padalino, Township of Pennsauken Clerk

The New Jersey Primary Election will take place on Tuesday, June 4. Polls are open from 6:00 a.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Below is a list of polling locations for the upcoming election. Should residents have any questions, please feel free to contact the Clerk's Office at (856) 665-1000 x122 or x124.

Polling Location	Street Address	District #s
Pennsauken Fire Company #2	2215 Merchantville Ave.	1 & 24
Riverview Village Community Center	407 Riverview Rd.	2
Faith Independent Bible Church	7651 Rogers Ave.	3 & 23
Martin Luther School	4106 Terrace Ave.	4 & 16
Municipal Court	2400 Bethel Ave.	5
Pennsauken Senior Towers	8001 Maple Ave.	6
Pennsauken Free Public Library	5605 N. Rt. 130	7
Homestead Youth Center	4771 Willow Ave.	8 & 10
St. Mathews United Methodist Church	1665 Deraussee Ave.	9 & 14
Temple Lutheran Church	5600 North Route #130	11
Macaro's Catering	6225 Westfield Ave.	12
PYAA Field House	3501 Elm Ave.	13 & 18
Faith Worship Center	550 49th St.	15
Pennsauken United Methodist Church	3541 Pennsylvania Ave.	17
Merchantville-Pennsauken Water Comm.	6751 Westfield Ave.	19
Circle of Hope Church	3800 Marlton Pike	20
Stonegate Apartments	5105 Stonegate Dr.	21
Cooper River Plaza	2400 McClellan Dr.	22

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George Corkhill: A Civil War Veteran In Pennsauken's Arlington

By Robert Fisher-Hughes, AAP Columnist and Amateur Historian

The many lives represented in the cemeteries and burial places of our township have stories that connect them to the narrative of their times, and ours, in ways that may surprise us, linking us to the great dramas of American history. One of these is George Corkhill.

Eighty years ago, George Corkhill, though a late resident of Camden, was laid to rest in Arlington Cemetery here in Pennsauken. At his passing, Corkhill was reportedly the second to last Civil War veteran living in the City of Camden. Although his service did not involve him in any great battle and no medals for extraordinary heroism decorated his breast, Private George Corkhill was honored in his later years as the symbol of that great and tragic schism in our national history. Corkhill spoke at Memorial Day services; served in his G.A.R. Post until dwindling membership forced its disbanding; and, in the last year of his life, was honored by local veterans of the Spanish American War, as an honorary member.

George Corkhill, who appeared in Army records as "McCorkhill," though his service was brief, embodied the exceptional courage and devotion of his generation and involved this youth in the great and tragic events at the end of the war.

LOOKING BACK IN HISTORY

In July of 1864, a 15-year-old George Corkhill lied about his age to enlist in the 195th Pennsylvania Infantry from his home in Chester County to serve in a bloody war that had already dragged on for three years. Nine more months of bloody business lay ahead before the Confederacy would be broken to bring the end of the conflict.

George Corkhill was not destined to face combat, however. His first regiment served its three months and mustered out.

Undaunted, Corkhill re-enlisted in February of 1865, for a regiment raised by the Union League in Philadelphia, the 213th Pennsylvania Infantry. Within a month, the regiment was sent to Annapolis, Maryland, on guard duty for an unconventional prison-camp known as Camp Parole. This camp housed Union prisoners of war who had been paroled by the Confederates on a promise not to bear arms again unless and until an exchange of prisoners on paper set them free to return to the war. Effectively, George Corkhill and his comrades were Union soldiers guarding Union soldiers on behalf of their Confederate captors.

Not long after this, the 213th Pennsylvania was assigned to guard vulnerable

railroad lines and then was sent to garrison defenses around Washington, D.C. Less than a year earlier, Confederate General Early had posed a serious threat to Washington when these defenses were neglected.

Corkhill and his unit were still there on April 9, 1865, when General Lee surrendered the Confederate Army of Northern Virginia to Grant at Appomattox Courthouse. It may have seemed the call of duty was at an end. A few short days later, President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated at Ford's Theater, the culmination of a broad conspiracy against the government masterminded by John Wilkes Booth.

Instantly, thoughts of peace vanished, as Union soldiers all around Washington were on guard to find and apprehend the scattering conspirators who had murdered the President; threatened the Vice President with death; and attacked the Secretary of State, severely wounding him.

Conspirators' names were soon known. Others, under suspicion or potential witnesses, were also listed for apprehension and questioning. In the days that followed, the assassination suspects were brought in. One, George Atzerodt, had been assigned to kill Vice President Johnson, but had spent the night of the assassination drinking before fleeing the Capitol in the morning. Atzerodt's

whereabouts were tipped off to Union forces in Maryland; he was apprehended on April 20 at his cousin's home near Germantown. It was Major Artman of George Corkhill's own regiment, who dispatched Delaware cavalymen on the mission. Atzerodt and his cousin were both brought in, as were dozens of others on varying grounds of suspicion.

Thus, George Corkhill and his 213th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment were involved both to hunt the conspirators who murdered the President and then to guard the group of suspects brought in to their sector. They remained in this role until the main conspirators were transferred to Washington and tem-

porarily held on board a Union ironclad warship. George Atzerodt would hang for his role.

Among the last conspirators to be brought to bay were John Wilkes Booth and his last companion, David Herold. These two were located by Union cavalymen at the Garrett farm near Port Royal, Virginia. Herold soon surrendered, but Booth remained barricaded in a barn, crippled by his broken leg, but refusing to be taken alive.

To force Booth's surrender, the barn was set on fire. Contrary to instructions, Sergeant Boston Corbett of the 16th New York Cavalry took aim at Booth as

continued on page 37

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Deadline For Best Mom, Dad Or Guardian In Pennsauken Approaching

Once again, Pennsauken children have a chance to put a spotlight on the man or woman in their lives who they think should be named the Best Mom, Dad, or Guardian in Pennsauken.

An annual contest, children in grades three, four, and five in a Pennsauken public, parochial, or private school may submit a letter saying why they believe their mom, dad, or guardian is the "best."

The contests are sponsored by the Pennsauken Youth Action Committee and the deadline for entries is Friday, May 3.

The first-, second- and third-place

winners will receive recognition and prizes at the Township Committee's meeting on Thursday, May 30, held at 5:30 p.m. in the Township Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd.

Letters will be judged by a panel on originality, content and ability to express feelings and ideas.

All entries for both contests may be mailed to "Best Mom, Dad or Guardian Contest," Pennsauken Municipal Building, 5605 N. Crescent Blvd., Pennsauken 08110, Attn. Elwood Martz. Letters may also be e-mailed to emartz@twp.pennsauken.nj.us.

inTown Celebrating Spring In Pennsauken



Free basic bike repair was offered to attendees of the Opening Day for Trails at Madison Park in Pennsauken.



A young guest is greeted by the Easter Bunny during the Township's annual Easter Egg Hunt. Special thanks to Kingsway Church and Kiddie Junction for their support of the event!



Community volunteers came together to help beautify Tippin's Pond during a clean up event held by Pennsauken's Department of Parks and Recreation and the Environmental Commission.

George Corkhill: A Civil War Veteran In Pennsauken's Arlington

continued from page 36

he approached the doors and shot him. Booth died shortly afterward on the porch of the Garrett farmhouse.

After the war, Sergeant Boston Corbett's strange and checkered life led him to reside for almost a decade in the City of Camden, pursuing his chosen vocation

as a preacher, while earning his living as a hat finisher in Philadelphia.

George Corkhill lived much of his life after the Civil War in Camden, marrying and raising a family, while he pursued his trade as a stair builder. He died at age 89, widely honored in his community, and his simple marker can be found in

Pennsauken's Arlington Park Cemetery.

Sources for this column include contemporary newspaper accounts; "The History of Pennsylvania Volunteers" by Samuel Bates; "The Madman and the Assassin" (2015) by Scott Martelle; and muster rolls of Civil War regiments available through Ancestry.com.

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Pennsauken Soccer Alumni Game On May 18

The annual Pennsauken Soccer Alumni Game will be held on Saturday, May 18, at the lower field at Howard M. Phifer Middle School, 8201 Park Ave.

The odds versus evens battle kicks off at 4:00 p.m. There will be surprises, awards, food, laughs, memories shared and new memories created at this family friendly event. And every year at half time, the Bill Winegardner Memorial Scholarship award is given out to a deserving soccer athlete.

For more information, e-mail Billy Snyder at wsnyder@pennsauken.net.



An annual tradition, the Pennsauken Soccer Alumni Game brings PHS graduates and their families together for an afternoon of fun and friendly competition.

Early Registration Begins For PYAA Football And Cheer

Those interested in registering their children ages 5-14 for PYAA football or cheerleading can save money with early registration. This special in-person registration is held May 6-10, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m., at Pennsauken's turf field, 4250 Burwood Ave. During this time, the cost of registration is \$150 for new players; \$125 for football players that have their jersey from the 2018 season (the jersey must be brought at the time of registering); and \$100 for cheerleading.

Regular registration begins June 1. The cost of registration is \$175 for new football players; \$175 for returning players without a jersey; and \$150 for returning players that have their jersey from the 2018 season (the jersey must be brought at the time of registering). The cost for cheerleading is \$130.

Pennsauken's Anyanwu Scores One Hundredth Goal



Congratulations to junior Ruby Anyanwu on becoming the first 100 goal scorer in a decade for PHS Lacrosse during last month's 15-5 victory over Haddon Heights!



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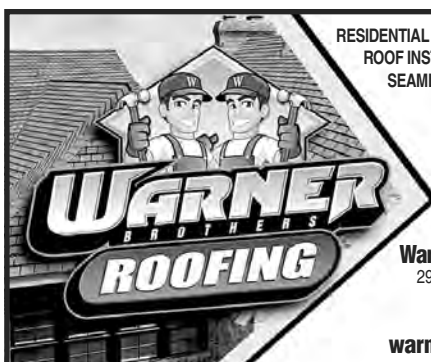
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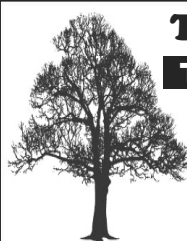
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